

Hurd attacks Kinnock over spy book case

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Government last night widened its criticism of Mr Neil Kinnock's conduct over the Australian spy book case...

of its approval "for the more open style of management" which the Director-General had introduced in the service...

Crown's case and British national security. Granada Television last night flatly denied that Mr Greengrass has acted as an informant for Mr Kinnock...

Table with 2 columns: Topic, Value. Includes Parliament 4, Nuclear warning 4, Kinnock's struggle 16.

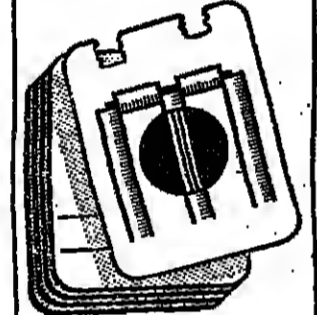
Mr Hurd was speaking in a Commons debate in which he disclosed that improved positive vetting and management procedures for MI5 demanded by the Prime Minister...

It had been preceded by further controversy over Mr Kinnock's role when a Conservative MP alleged in a Commons motion, protected by parliamentary privilege...

He demanded Mrs Thatcher state publicly whether she intended to abandon the traditional confidential briefings between the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition on security matters...

Tomorrow

Don't get caught...



... without that must for every cricket follower, The Times cricket calendar for 1987...

Portfolio Gold

The Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £4,000 was won yesterday by Mr T. Lane of Christchurch, Dorset...

TIMES BUSINESS

P&O bid talks P & O and European Ferries are holding merger talks after the Monopolies and Mergers Commission cleared a takeover bid valuing European Ferries at more than £300 million...

TIMES SPORT

Tour called off A South African public school has arrived in England for a series of rugby matches in the wake of a decision to call off a tour by the Hedgehogs, a university team from the Republic...

TIMES JOBS

Hidden boon Self-employment may be a hidden boon for over-45s in the job market and for the organizations for which they perform services...

Table with 2 columns: Section, Page. Includes Home News 2-7, Features 14-16, Overseas 9-12, Law Report 17, Arts 12-13, Births, deaths 19, Parliament 4, Books 15, Sale Room 18, Business 21-28, Science Sport 37-40, 42, Court 18, Theatres etc 41, Crosswords 14, 20, TV & Radio 41, Diary 20, Weather 20, Events 20.



Mounted police keep an eye on last-minute share applicants in the City of London yesterday. (Photograph: Nick Rogers)

Sid blamed for gas applicants shortfall

By Richard Lander

The £5.6 billion British Gas share flotation closed yesterday with preliminary estimates indicating that far fewer people had applied than the organizers of the issue had hoped for only a few days ago...

US connection possible in Guinness affair

By Lawrence Lever

The Guinness investigation took a new twist yesterday as suggestions emerged that two American financiers may have supported Guinness's share price at the time of its £2.7 billion bid for Distillers...

company and imprisonment of any directors involved. Mr Ivan Boesky, the disgraced American speculator, is known to have approached Mr Gulliver, the chairman of Argyl, apparently offering to support Argyl's bid for Distillers...

when Argyl took control. Mr Gulliver declined to enter into any arrangement with Mr Riklis. Subsequently a subsidiary company of Rapid, called Schenley, purchased Guinness shares...

Why Havers was not consulted

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, was excluded from the decision to stop the Chapman Pincher spy book in 1981 because of the "delicate" circumstances in which the manuscript was obtained by MI5, senior government sources have said...

Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, made the apparently suspicious circumstances in which the book was obtained a central feature of his speech in yesterday's Commons debate on the security services. He asked whether illegal methods were employed and what sort of ministerial approval was required before MI5 could act illegally...

In the Sydney court on Friday, after he corrected his earlier evidence that Sir Michael took the decision on the Pincher book, he said, instead, that it had been the view of "legal advisers", Sir Robert said that the advice was based on two matters: "First, that we did not have a text the possession of which the Government was prepared to admit, and second, we had not been able to identify with sufficient particularity and certainty the sources of confidential information on which the book was apparently based..."

Ridley in rate grants switch

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

The Home Counties received an early Christmas present from the Government last night when Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, promised extra cash which will prevent house rate rises...

Check on race for jobless

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Government is planning to monitor the racial backgrounds of all those on the unemployment register. Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Employment, disclosed last night that he is hoping to set up pilot schemes in Leeds, Nottingham and Birmingham in the New Year, with a view to extending the scheme nationwide if those pilots are successful...

BCal buys long-range US jets for £700m

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A £700 million order for nine American-built MD-11 long-range jets has been placed by British Caledonian, making it the launch customer for the aircraft. Although British Caledonian had formally been evaluating both the McDonnell Douglas MD-11 and the proposed European-built A340 airbus, in which Britain has a 20 per cent stake, the airbus was quickly rejected by the independent airline...

Mrs Mandela pelted by blacks

Cape Town (Reuters) - Mrs Winnie Mandela, the black nationalist leader, was pelted with rubbish and soft drink cans by angry blacks yesterday as she left the trial of a friend who had been convicted of murder, eye-witnesses said. About 200 blacks were said to have thrown rubbish and sand at Mrs Mandela, wife of the nationalist leader, Mr Nelson Mandela, who is serving a life sentence. She was trying to slip out of the Cape Town Supreme Court by a back entrance...

Murdoch buys 'family' newspaper

By Our City Staff

Mr Rupert Murdoch, whose News Corporation media group publishes The Times, The Sunday Times, The Sun and The News of the World, is bidding Aus\$1.8 billion (£818 million) for the Herald and Weekly Times company, the biggest Australian television, newspaper and radio station group. On one level, the move strengthens Mr Murdoch's ties with the country where he was born and from where he built up a global communications empire that now stretches across Europe and the United States. However, Mr Murdoch also has a far closer and more personal association with the Melbourne-based company - it was managed, and its destiny shaped, for many years by his father, Sir Keith Murdoch...



Sir Keith Murdoch: 'a fine journalist'

piece of British bungling, the Galipoli campaign," wrote one follower of the Australian press. After laying down his pen, he built H&WT into the strongest and most successful newspaper group in Australia through astute purchases and an acute sense of popular taste for bright and interesting newspapers...

Maze escapers returned to face charges

Brendan McFarlane and Gerard Kelly were remanded in custody on charges connected with the mass escape from the Maze prison in 1983 when they appeared at court in Lisburn. Co Antrim yesterday afternoon, about three hours after their return to Northern Ireland on extradition from the Netherlands. McFarlane, aged 35, and Kelly, aged 33, were flown to Belfast's Aldergrove airport. Jointly, the two men each face seven charges of imprisoning seven prison officers on the day of the escape. The magistrate remanded the two men, who were both serving life sentences for terrorist offences, to appear at Belfast Magistrates Court on Friday.

Swiss bank tie to CIA rebel aid

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Afghan and Angolan rebels received covert assistance as a result of arms sales to Iran, a US Government source said yesterday.

The funds were supplied from a Swiss bank account, controlled by the Central Intelligence Agency, which was also used to supply money to Nicaraguan Contras rebels. The source confirmed a report in yesterday's Washington Post that the US and the Saudi Arabian governments had each deposited \$250 million (£178.5 million) in the account to underwrite rebels fighting Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

A White House spokesman said he had no knowledge of the reported account. A CIA spokeswoman also declined comment.

The Washington Post report said money from the Swiss account was used to buy arms for the Contras when Congress had forbidden any military support for them.

Congress anger Heart of scandal page 9

Money from the account was used to buy arms which were clandestinely shipped to guerrillas in Afghanistan and, more recently, to Contras in Nicaragua, according to one congressional source.

This version contradicts statements made by Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney-General, that profits from the Iran arms sales were "deposited" in bank accounts which were under the control of the Contras and their supporters.

One source said Mr Meese may not have been fully informed when he made his statement on November 25. CREDIBILITY HIT: Vice-President George Bush on Wednesday conceded that President Reagan's "credibility" has been damaged, but said he supported secret arms sales to Iran (AP reports).

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NEWS SUMMARY

Police officers in conduct inquiry

The independent Police Complaints Authority is to supervise an investigation into possible criminal conduct by some Derbyshire police officers during an audit hearing into alleged overspending by Mr Alfred Parrish, the former Chief Constable.

Mr Alan Elliott, an assistant chief constable of the West Midlands, is to conduct the police investigation into statements made during the District Auditor's public hearing which started last month in Matlock, Derbyshire, into alleged irregularities involving alterations costing £28,000 to Mr Parrish's office at Ripley.

Gay books protest

An official complaint about the open display of explicit homosexual and lesbian literature in a public library has been sent to the left-wing London borough council of Brent by Dr Rhodes Boyson, the Local Government Minister and MP for Brent North.

In a letter to Brent's chief executive, Dr Boyson said that given the spread of Aids, the exhibition of such material threatened the survival of society. He added that he had received repeated complaints from local parents about the display of the homosexual literature in a library in Carlton Avenue West in his constituency.

Driver guilty

Carey Styles, aged 48, of Tobrak Road, Huyton, Liverpool, the driver of a coach which crashed on the M6 motorway near Birmingham last year killing three people, was yesterday found guilty of careless driving by magistrates at Solihull.

Keith Weston, aged 35, of Windslow Mews, Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland, a lorry driver involved in the accident, was also convicted of careless driving.

Tory MP on bail

Mr Tom Arnold (right), a vice-chairman of the Conservative Party, was remanded on bail until January 7 when he appeared at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, central London, yesterday.

Mr Arnold, aged 39, of Pimlico, MP for Hazel Grove, Greater Manchester, was accused of driving with excess alcohol in Trafalgar Square last Tuesday night.

He is alternatively charged with driving while unfit on the same occasion.

Probe into Militant

Mr David Hughes, the Labour Party national agent, is to visit Blyth Valley on December 18 to investigate claims of Militant infiltration and intimidation of moderate activists and alleged irregularities in the conduct of constituency business.

The probe has been launched at the instigation of Mr John Ryan, the MP for the Northumberland mining seat, who has threatened to resign and force a by-election in which he will stand on an anti-Militant platform unless an urgent inquiry is begun.

MPs stop libel case

Two Tory MPs yesterday withdrew a libel action in the High Court against Mr Philip Pedley, former chairman of the Young Conservatives.

A Young Conservatives' report provided the source for allegations in the BBC Panorama programme for which Mr Neil Hamilton, MP for Tatton, Cheshire, and Mr Gerald Howarth, MP for Camock and Burtwood, were awarded damages and costs totalling £280,000 in a libel action.



Demystifying the Civil Service on TV

By Michael Evans Whitehall Correspondent

The Civil Service has opened its doors to television cameras to reveal how the "chosen few" are recruited to become the high-fliers destined for the top jobs.

In an attempt to show that not all recruits come from public schools and Oxbridge, the BBC has been allowed to film the selection process for each year, to graduates, for the "fast stream" in the Civil and diplomatic services.

These are the recruits expected to reach assistant secretary level or above in their careers.

This year, for the first time, less than half of the graduate candidates for the "fast stream" come from Oxford and Cambridge.

The candidates are put through a gruelling interrogation by a panel that includes a businessman and an academic as well as senior Civil Servants.

Yesterday, Mr Dennis Trevelyan, the principal Civil Service Commissioner, said he hoped that the televised interviews would put off potential recruits. "I thought

it was time we de-mystified the Civil Service selection process," he said.

The first of two programmes, part of BBC2's 40 Minutes series, is scheduled for tonight. It shows candidates being given a hard time by the final selection board. Two candidates, both of whom, as it happens, came from Oxbridge but with different family backgrounds, are frequently lost for words in the panic to answer the questions intelligently at the final interview.

The two victims of the grilling are Louise Elliott,

applying to join the diplomatic service and Timothy Cooke, seeking to enter the Home Civil Service.

Louise, who went to Charterhouse and Cambridge, and is the daughter of a solicitor and farmer, succeeds, even though she failed to solve the Middle East crisis during her 30-minute interrogation.

Tim, aged 25, who went to a state school and Oxford, and worked for the Greater London Council until its demise this April, fails, mainly because he gets on his high horse about the "immorality" of nuclear power.

The panel went for Louise's "outstanding personality" and gave her the benefit of the doubt, in spite of worries expressed by the businessman, Mr David Hunter-Johnston, of Transoceanic Trust, that she had an "alarming" lack of basic intelligence.

After Tim Cooke's argument over nuclear power, with Mr Hunter-Johnston, he came out, still being filmed, cursing his luck and said to another candidate waiting for interview: "I asked him if he would live next door to a nuclear power station, but the bastard said yes".

Thatcher blasts Labour on defence

By Peter Davenport Defence Correspondent

Labour's non-nuclear defence policies would seriously affect the ability of the United Kingdom to deter aggression and would leave the country open to intimidation, the Prime Minister said yesterday.

They would be dangerous, wholly ineffective in convicting the Soviet leadership of the risks inherent in aggression and would increase the risks of conflict.

Mrs Thatcher returned to the attack on Labour's plans in an interview, published yesterday, with the magazine Jane's Defence Weekly.

Her comments reinforced those of Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, to The Times earlier this week in response to allegations being made by Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour leader, on his visit to the United States, where he is trying to convince American politicians that his policies will not weaken British commitment to Nato.

She was asked how she viewed Labour's unilateralist defence policy and the party's intent to pursue a non-provocative posture.

Nato, Mrs Thatcher said, was purely a defensive alliance and none of its weapons would ever be used except in response to an attack. The flexibility of response through the full range of weapons capabilities, from conventional to theatre and strategic nuclear forces, was a key element of the strategy.

The Soviet Union should never have the option of escalating an attack to a level at which it might calculate there was no credible Nato response.

That is why Labour Party policies of unilateral nuclear disarmament and removal of American nuclear bases in the United Kingdom would be so dangerous. They would seriously affect our ability to deter aggression and prevent intimidation.

Two former Labour Foreign Ministers also attacked Labour's unilateral policy last night as threatening the future of Nato (Sheila Ginn writes).

Lord Stewart of Fulham, Foreign Secretary in a Wilson Government, said: "We are twisting and distorting the strategy of Nato and imposing a very heavy burden on our allies."

In stronger terms Lord Chalfont, a former Foreign Minister, accused Labour of gambling with the safety of the West by opting for unilateral disarmament.

Parliament, Page 4

Compromise on teachers' pay will be put to Baker

By Mark Dowd, Education Reporter

One of the teaching unions which signed the recent Acas deal with the education authorities has put together a compromise package aimed at solving the apparent impasse between the Government and the local authority employers.

The Professional Association of Teachers, whose 36,000 members are bound over to strike, will put its revised plans to Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education, at a meeting next Thursday.

If the association receives encouragement for the blueprint, Mr Peter Dawson, the union's general secretary, will seek an appointment with the employers' leader, Mr John Pearman.

The initiative is a controversial attempt to find a middle way between two divergent views on structuring teachers' pay. Mr Baker wants five "incentive posts" for senior staff and good teachers on top of a basic salary scale ranging from £7,900 to £12,700.

The local authorities have only two promotion allowances in their deal but higher salaries in the main professional grade, which ranges from £9,700 to £15,058. Moreover, the Acas package is costed at about £690 million to March 1988, compared with the £608 million which the Government has proposed.

Providing its national council approves the new model at a meeting on Saturday, the association will present Mr Baker with a plan which will include four promotion posts

worth £1,000, £1,500, £3,000 and £4,000, and a main professional grade which starts at £9,500 and ends at £14,000.

Furthermore, in providing promotion allowances for about 45 per cent of teachers, the association believes it could be satisfactory to Mr Baker. His deal provides such posts for 50 per cent of the teaching profession compared with the 23 per cent contained in the Acas deal.

The union hopes to attract support from other unions whose members are voicing anxieties about compressed differentials.

However, it is almost certain to be rejected by the two largest unions, The National Union of Teachers has said it will not accept more allowances at the expense of the main salary grades, while a ceiling of £14,000 would be dismissed out of hand by the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers.

Moreover, the employers are likely to take a dim view of proposing new ideas at a time when unions members are being consulted about the original deal.

All six unions are either balloting or consulting their members with results expected from most of them by the middle of next week.

Mr Pearman has arranged a meeting on December 19 at which he says both sides must agree on a final position.

Mr Baker has said he will impose his own contract on pay and conditions if a satisfactory settlement is not forthcoming by early 1987.



Mrs Nesta Brown working in the Royal Opera House ballet shoe room where she describes her working conditions as "like a prison".

She looks forward to big improvements in facilities and space when renovation plans go ahead in the spring, if the Royal Opera was planning possession.

About £24 million will have to be raised from manufacturers to remove outdated equipment, backstage, and provide better working conditions and storage space.

Dressing rooms will have modern facilities and Mrs Brown will not have to descend to an outside hut to fetch shoes.

(Photograph: John Manning)

Hurd acts to curb crossbow menace

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, yesterday signalled the beginning of a clampdown on the availability of crossbows (Nicholas Wood writes).

He said he would urge traders not to sell the weapons to people under the age of 17 and he would like to see the appeal of the backing of law.

In the absence of an early opportunity for Government legislation, ministers would "look favourably" on a private member's Bill, he said.

Mr Hurd's announcement came in a written answer to Miss Janet Fookes, the Conservative MP for Plymouth Drake, who has campaigned for curbs on crossbows for the past 10 years.

She said the Home Secretary's decision was "a step in the right direction".

Figures collected by some police forces show that in the year to last April there were 115 offences involving crossbows.

Paper silent on dismissals

By Michael McCarthy

Reticence was heavy in the air yesterday at the Communist Morning Star newspaper, chief scourge of The Times and the other News International titles over their move to Wapping, as details emerged of the paper's own dismissal of a quarter of its printworkers.

Thirty-six members of Sogat '82, the National Graphical Association and the engineering union have been made redundant at the paper because of a severe cash crisis threatening its future.

The redundancies were reported in yesterday's Morning Star. The paper said: "The departments selected for redundancy are those which are uneconomic because of the wage relationship to hours worked".

The bland language hides a remarkable truth: that even the paper which is the greatest champion of the traditional print unions has itself had to resort, for its own survival, to dismissal rather than negotiation who faced with traditional working practices.

The printers concerned, it was reported elsewhere yesterday, earned £600 a week and actually worked only 45 minutes of their nightly eight-hour shift. When asked to perform contract printing work during the seven hours they were idle they refused unless they were paid extra and were dismissed.

The Morning Star was not keen publicly to acknowledge this yesterday, much less discuss it, surprising perhaps in a paper which champions the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom.

The Times attempted to contact the editor, Mr Tony Chater. The switchboard operator spoke to his secretary and was told: "Mr Chater has made a statement to the Press Association and is not taking any press calls".

The switchboard operator said: "I've just tried to put another paper through and he wouldn't take that".

Five minutes later, after ascertaining that no statement had been made to the Press Association besides the original one announcing the redundancies on Tuesday night, The Times rang back to ask if one simple question could be put to Mr Chater: How, in essence, was the situation at the Morning Star different from the situation at Wapping?

The switchboard operator said: "How is the situation at the Morning Star different from the situation at Wapping? Just a minute."

After another minute this helpful lady said: "Hello love? Dave Whitfield, the assistant editor, is going to type something out and if you hold on I'm to read it to you".

After yet a further minute she said: "Are you there, love? Oh dear, look. Now I've been told we're not to make any comment to anyone from Wapping. All right?"

The redundancy terms offered have caused considerable ill-feeling among the dismissed men. They have been offered one month's notice, with one week's pay for every year of service, in line with the Government minimum.

The 5,100 printworkers dismissed after going on strike when Mr Rupert Murdoch's News International moved its four papers, including The Times, to its new plant at Wapping, east London, have been offered a month's pay for every year of service.

Times not stocked by 2 councils

Only two local authorities are not providing The Times in public libraries after the High Court ruling last month that such bans are unlawful.

They are the London boroughs of Brent and Newham. Brent is maintaining the ban introduced in June, while Newham has rescinded the ban in theory, but has withdrawn all newspaper and newspaper publications while it "reviews its newspaper provision" policy.

Mr R P Brenton, Newham's director of leisure services, said yesterday that the review was being carried out by elected members who had been nominated by a full meeting of the council.

Mr Brenton said he did not know if The Times and the other banned News International titles - The Sunday Times, The Sun and The News of the World - would be restocked after the review is completed next Wednesday.

More than twenty councils originally banned News International titles.

Parliament, Page 4

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£645 fine for illegal trader

A man who admitted 15 summonses of illegal street trading was fined a total of £645 with £60 costs at Wells Street magistrates yesterday.

But Mr David Singleton, the magistrate, told him that if he pays £10 a week until February 6 the rest of the payments may be remitted.

John Bishop, of Lorimer Square, Watworth, south London, admitted 15 summonses of illegal street trading at Leather Lane market, High Holborn, central London, between August 4 and September 26.

Bishop had been seen selling leather goods from a small stall in a non-designated area.

Mr James Clark, of Redriff Road, Plaistow, north London, who faces 11 summonses of illegal street trading at the same market, had his case adjourned until December 30. He was arrested after a purge by Camden council.

The Reith Lectures 'Bill of Rights has dangers'

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The dangers of a Bill of Rights, which would involve a shift of power from elected and accountable MPs to judges who are not, were highlighted by a High Court judge last night.

Lord McCuskey, solicitor general for Scotland under the last Labour government, said: "Why it should be supposed that elderly lawyers with cautious and backward-looking habits of thought are qualified to overrule the judgements of democratically elected legislators as to what is justified I do not profess to understand".

To transfer such power to a body of professional specialists is to abdicate "a real measure of democratic responsibility," he said.

He also warned that such a Bill would encourage "single issue fanatics" like the American prohibitionists in the 1920s.

His comments, made in his fifth Reith Lecture on Radio 4, come just days before a renewed attempt next week in the Commons to introduce a charter of rights in this country through incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights into United Kingdom law.

Sir Edward Gardner, QC, chairman of the home affairs select committee, will introduce his Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms Bill on December 10 - Human Rights Day.

Lord McCuskey said that one of the main arguments in favour of entrenching rights in a charter was that they could not be disturbed by a temporary political majority in power for five or 10 years.

But the other side of that coin was that it also enabled a particular coalition of interest groups, who managed to win a sufficient majority at the time the charter was enacted, to

ensure their special interest was entrenched as a right.

An example was the eighteenth amendment to the American constitution introducing prohibition, Lord McCuskey added, which was seen as the crowning achievement of those wanting to save the republic from "the corrupting effects of alcohol, the saloon and the movies and all sins robbing it of its purity".

Such a right in future could not be altered by Parliament, he said.

A Bill of Rights was not the "gateway to the promised land", he said. The question was whether it was necessary and whether its advantages outweighed its disadvantages for the UK.

It would be hard to argue that such Bills were preserved in the fundamental rights of citizens in countries where they exist more than the ordinary law as applied in the UK, he said.

Police side w than b
Weak beer falls test for re-...
East End

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Thatcher blasts Labour on defence

By Peter Davenport
Defence Correspondent

Labour's non-nuclear defence policies would seriously affect the ability of the United Kingdom to deter aggression and would leave the country open to intimidation, the Prime Minister said yesterday.

They would be dangerous, wholly ineffective in confronting the Soviet leadership of the risks inherent in aggression and would increase the risks of conflict.

Mrs Thatcher returned to the attack on Labour's plans yesterday in an interview published in *Jane's Defence Weekly*.

Her comments reinforced those of Mr George Young, Secretary of State for Defence, to the Times earlier this week in response to allegations being made by Neil Kinnock, Labour leader on his visit to the United States, where he is trying to convince American politicians that British policy will not weaken British command.

She was asked how she viewed Labour's unilateral defence policy and the party's intent to pursue a non-nuclear alternative posture.

Nato, Mrs Thatcher said, was a deterrent to aggression and non-nuclear weapons would never be used except in response to an attack. The flexibility of response through conventional and strategic nuclear weapons was a key element of the strategy.

The Soviet Union, she said, never had a nuclear policy of escalation. It was a policy of deterrence.

"The unilateralism of the Labour defence policy is a serious danger to the security of the British Isles," she said.

"The unilateralism of the Labour defence policy is a serious danger to the security of the British Isles," she said.

Police 'more likely to side with wife-beater than battered woman'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A policeman called to a domestic dispute is more likely to side with the wife-beater than the battered woman, it was claimed yesterday.

The London Police Monitoring and Research Group, funded by nine left-wing London boroughs, calls for instant police intervention, better police training, more women judges and better-funded women's refuges.

It says rape within marriage should be outlawed and wife-beating made grounds for eviction in council tenancy agreements.

In a briefing paper, the group says that more than 1,000 London women become victims of violence in the home each week and argues that "undue expectations" have been raised over the power of civil injunctions to prevent abuse.

"The police will not enforce an injunction unless there is a power of arrest attached - even then they rarely arrest the offending man."

"This is despite the fact that police inaction can, and has, led to the death of the woman at the hand of the man concerned."

A woman who had showed a letter to a police officer warning that a man had assaulted her was later murdered by him, the paper said. The officer did not read the letter fully, saw the man off the premises and left.

Later that night the man returned, the woman jumped out of the first-floor window to escape him and he killed her in the back garden.

The report says: "This horrifying case clearly illustrates the limitation of domestic violence proceedings and emphasizes the need for the police to take positive action to protect the woman."

figures in England and Wales for 1984. According to the Metropolitan Police working party on domestic violence, only 360 out of 19,002 serious assaults were recorded between spouses.

Yet in 1984 more than 4,500 women convinced the courts that they had been physically injured and were in serious danger of being attacked by their husbands and partners. Most of the men were never charged.

Miss Jo Richardson, Labour MP for Barking, said yesterday there were estimated to be at least 100,000 cases of domestic violence a year in London alone. She would certainly be looking closely at the need for new legislation.

The report is to be sent to the Lord Chancellor, Home Secretary and Metropolitan Police Commissioner.

Mr Don Cassidy, executive director of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, said in Ottawa yesterday that coping with domestic violence represented a "large factor" in Canadian policing operations (John Best writes).

Society's concern had grown noticeably in the past three or four years, driven partly by the efforts of women's groups to draw attention to it.

Law enforcement authorities had responded in a number of ways. Police were now not so reluctant to intervene in family violence and dealing with such disputes was now part of their training. Professional actors were sometimes used as role models.

In some larger cities several police patrol cars carried, in addition to policemen, qualified social workers capable of dealing with situations involving family violence.

Preliminary results of the *Islington Crime Survey* by Middlesex Polytechnic Centre of Criminology in 1985 showed a high level of violence in the attacks. 92 per cent of women were punched or slapped; 57 per cent were kicked.

In 22 per cent of incidents weapons were used, ranging from bottles and glasses to knives, scissors, sticks, clubs and other blunt objects.

The inadequacy of police recording practices was shown in a specially commissioned analysis of the serious assault



A tormented Anthony Hopkins, who plays the lead role in *King Lear*, during a dress rehearsal for the production directed by David Hare, which opens at the National Theatre's Olivier Theatre in London on December 11 (Photograph: Nobby Clark)

Siege man admits he killed woman

A man had a "considerable change of heart" at the Central Criminal Court yesterday and admitted killing a young mother and severely wounding her daughter, aged four, during a siege.

Errol Walker, aged 29, admitted the manslaughter of Jackie Charles, aged 22, but still denied murdering her.

He also changed his plea and admitted other charges of seriously wounding Mrs Charles's daughter Carlene during the 29-hour siege at a council flat in Poynters Gardens, Northolt, west London, last Christmas.

Mr Justice Allott told the jury: "There obviously has been a very considerable change of heart by the defendant."

The prosecution said that it needed until today to decide whether it could accept his plea of manslaughter. The decision will be based on psychiatric evidence.

Walker had spent two days listening to evidence that he stabbed Mrs Charles and then tortured her daughter during the siege.

The daughter's ordeal at knifepoint was ended when police stormed into the flat, shot Walker in the head and rescued her, the prosecution has told the court.

When Walker appeared in court yesterday Mr Christopher Barnett, for the defence, asked for the charges to be put again.

In a filtering, almost inaudible voice Walker said he was not guilty of murder, but guilty of manslaughter and then went on to admit three charges of wounding the girl, causing her grievous bodily harm, falsely imprisoning her and threatening to kill.

He still denies attempting to murder the girl.

Mr Julian Bevan, for the prosecution, has said that Walker, of Tachbrook Road, Southall, west London, took Carlene and her mother hostage while searching for his wife, Marlene.

Police officers first saw Carlene's mother hurled from the window, dying from stab wounds, Walker then turned on the terrified child. Police officers saw him hack the girl's fingers with a knife, Mr Bevan said. "Blood was pouring from her wounds. Although obviously very frightened she did not scream."

The trial continues today.

Portfolio Gold - Checking confirms windfall

Yesterday's outright winner of the £4,000 Portfolio Gold prize, Mr Tom Lane, of Stourway, Christchurch, Dorset, had to check his wife's calculations after she had added up the numbers on the winning card three times and still thought she might have got the total wrong. "My arithmetic is so bad", she said.

The Lanes have been regular Portfolio players since the competition began. They plan to use part of their winnings for their first holiday in two years, which they will spend with their children, aged 15 and 12.

The couple are both aged 38 and Mr Lane is a self-employed manufacturer's agent.

Mrs Jane Lane said yesterday: "I have been spending the money in my head and telling myself to calm down ever since breakfast time. It will be nice to have the extra cash for Christmas as well as the holiday."

Readers who wish to play the game can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold,
The Times,
PO Box 40,
Blackburn,
BB1 6AJ.



Mr Tom Lane, planning a family holiday.

Puzzle over Aids infection

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The husband and youngest child of a woman who died from Aids two months ago are also carriers of the infection, a medical investigation has disclosed.

Doctors are trying to discover whether the woman was infected during a blood transfusion five years ago, or whether the disease was transmitted sexually between her and her husband.

They are also hoping to establish whether the couple's baby son was infected during pregnancy or after he was born.

The woman died two months ago in Newcastle upon Tyne general hospital. Her husband and their son, aged 23 months, were tested and found to be seropositive for traces of the virus, but have no symptoms of the disease.

The possible explanations are that a contaminated blood transfusion caused the woman's infection; that the husband was infected first and transmitted the virus sexually to his wife, without showing symptoms of the disease; that the wife was infected from a previous sexual partner and passed the virus to her husband.

Details of the case were reported yesterday in *The Journal*, the Newcastle newspaper, but names of the family were not disclosed.

The report said that the woman was given blood from two separate donors when she gave birth to her first son five years ago, three years before her marriage. That child has not been infected.

One of the donors has been traced and cleared of being a carrier, but the other has moved home and not yet been contacted.

The husband was reported as saying that he now realized the truth of the government publicity campaign that everyone was at risk from Aids.

Nottingham Health Authority is to appoint an Aids liaison officer, on a £12,500 a year salary.

The officer will be expected to develop a public information and education strategy to halt the spread of the virus.

Weak beer fails test for taste

By Robin Young

Low-alcohol lagers and wines do not taste much like the real thing, according to this month's issue of the Consumers' Association magazine, *Which?*, published today.

Lager drinkers who tried 11 low-alcohol versions of the brew could tell the difference between them and the standard product in two out of every three cases, *Which?* found.

Wine experts found the low-alcohol brands they sampled unexciting, and some said they would prefer to drink fruit juice or even tap water.

The low-alcohol drinks which won most approval were Swan Special Light and Dansk Light among the lagers and Masson Light White and Eisberg White among the wines.

Drinkers could consume 22 times as much low-alcohol wine as ordinary wine before reaching the same level of alcohol intake.

Four cans of the preferred low-alcohol lagers were roughly equivalent to one standard can.

Which? also attacks the chocolates you buy this Christmas, saying they could be last year's leftovers because they do not have to be date-marked. The magazine is also dissatisfied that the ingredients of chocolates do not have to be declared in the same way as most foods.

Which? says that all ingredients, including any additives, should be listed, and a 'best before' date provided on all pre-packed chocolate.

Liberty to shop in peace

By David Cross

Readers of *The Times* will have a second chance to avoid the usual crush of Christmas shopping when Liberty stores around the country open their doors especially for them next Tuesday night.

A spokeswoman for Liberty said yesterday that the first *Times* shopping night, held last Tuesday, was an unqualified success. Before the Regent Street branch opened at 6.30 pm, the queue of shoppers stretched twice round the block. The store had sold as many goods in the two-and-a-half hours which followed as it would during an entire Christmas shopping day.

Despite the crowds, which thinned out as the evening wore on, it was all rather elegant, said Jane MacQuitty, *The Times* Wine Correspondent, who was signing copies of her *Pocket Guide to Champagne and Sparkling Wine* in the store.

A wind quister from the Chelsea Symphony Orchestra played in the silk department and a harpist entertained buyers in the fashion section as shoppers sipped glasses of free wine.

Shona Crawford Poole, *The Times* Cookery Correspondent, spent the evening signing copies of *The New Times Cook Book*.

During the evening, the company's wine stores around the country gave away 1 1/2 tons of rose-scented soap and 578 gallons of wine.

A shopper who spent £10,000 on gifts at the Regent Street store received 200 £5 gift vouchers.

New share service to go on trial

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A new telephone service which will tell Six and the growing millions of stock market investors what their shares are worth is to go on trial.

Citycall Portfolio, which will provide an up-date of prices every 10 minutes, is to be tested by 50 to 100 shareholders.

The latest prices and movements of more than 1,700 shares will be continuously fed through a special computer. The information will then be converted into speech by a memory that contains pre-recorded elements of speech - it is the latest advance in voice-processing technology being tested by British Telecom.

The subscriber will only need a touch tone telephone or a new device called an MF4 tone keypad that fits over the mouthpiece of a telephone to obtain the latest bulletin. Push buttons will be used to key in a password and a code identifying the person's portfolio.

During the trial period there will be no subscription charges. The only cost will be the telephone call, charged at 33p a minute between 8.00am and 6.00 pm and 22p a minute overnight and at weekends.

The Citycall financial information services were developed initially for professional and business organizations in the City, but they are being extended to cater for the widening population of investors.

The service is likely to be marketed early next year.

Lecturer accused of fraud

By Craig Seton

A senior lecturer with financial problems was able to withdraw £286,000 from a bank account which should have contained only £286, Birmingham Crown Court was told yesterday.

A bank in the United States made an error when transferring the £286, the court was told.

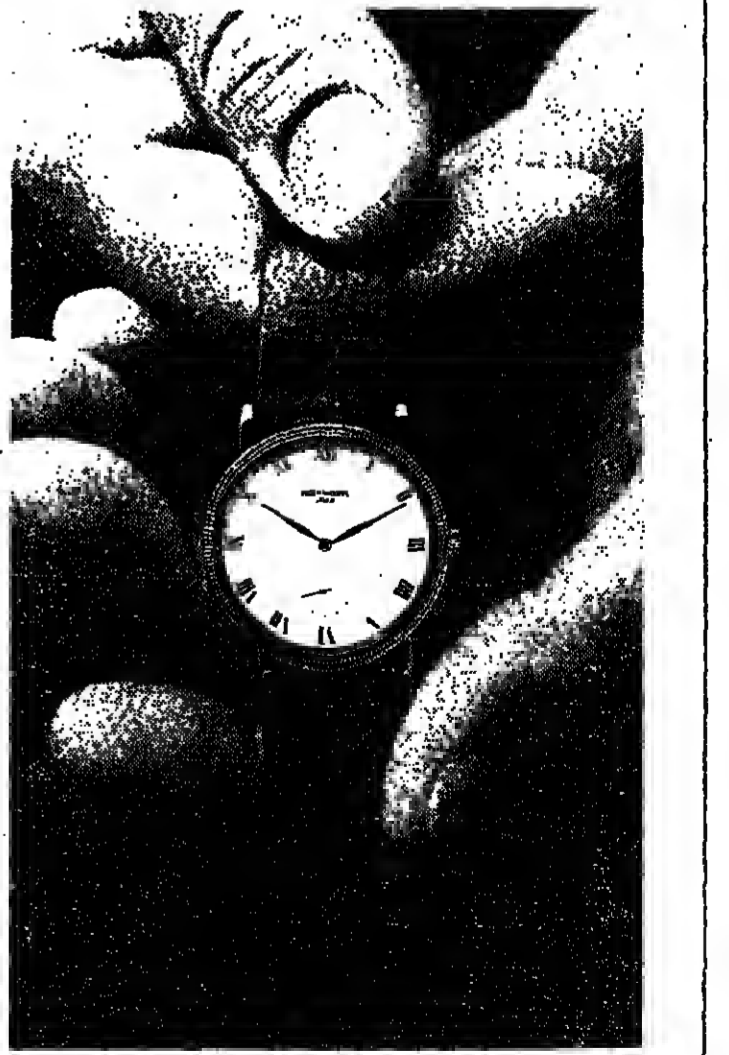
It was alleged that Mr Hamid Shadrokh-Cigari, aged 32, acted with "amazing speed and dishonesty" and used some of the money to order two Porsche cars, buy expensive TV and video equipment.

Mr James Pyke, for the prosecution, said that only a few thousand pounds had been recovered. Mr Shadrokh-Cigari, a lecturer in computer studies at Birmingham Polytechnic, was alleged to have hidden the money in a variety of bank and building society accounts.

Mr Shadrokh-Cigari, of Ferry Common, Birmingham, denies obtaining £197,000 from the Midland Bank, by deception, and four charges of stealing bankers' drafts.

The trial continues today.

WHEN you first handle a Patek Philippe, you become aware that this watch has the presence of an object of rare perfection. We know the feeling well. We experience it every time a Patek Philippe leaves the hands of our craftsmen. You can call it pride. For us it lasts a moment; for you, a lifetime. We made this watch for you - to be part of your life - simply because this is the way we've always made watches. And if we may draw a conclusion from five generations of experience, it will be this: choose once but choose well. A Patek Philippe - because it's for a lifetime.



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BBC unveils Christmas shows

EastEnders star in £17.5m package

The best-known public house in Britain is throwing open its doors on Christmas Day.

The Queen Vic in Albert Square will be featured in two episodes to give BBC viewers a double helping of the soap opera *EastEnders* during the day.

The double dose of *EastEnders* is part of the BBC's £17.5 million line-up of television programmes for the Christmas season, which also bring Noel Edmonds back on the screens live for the first time since the tragedy which ended his *Late Late Breakfast Show*.

In *Christmas Morning with Noel Edmonds* he will reunite families in Britain with loved ones in Australia. Noel will be in Looadoo's British Telecom Tower to link up with Melbourne and Sydney to bring families together - including those of some of England's cricket team.

Noel, whose *Late Late Breakfast Show* was scrapped when Mr Michael Lush, a viewer, died rehearsing a stunt, will also host a special edition of *Telly Addicts*. The current *Telly Addicts* series was recorded before the tragedy.

Christmas Day also promises comedy from Paul Nicholas and Joe Francis in the last episode of *Just Good Friends*, David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst in a feature-length *Only Fools and Horses*, and Russ Abbot in his own show.

Joan Hickson will be back as Miss Marple in *Agatha Christie's Murder at the Vicarage*, and the Christmas Day fare also includes the British TV film premiere of *Educating Rita*, with Michael Caine and Julie Walters and the musical *Annie*.

The Queen's Christmas Broadcast will go out in the afternoon on BBC1 and be repeated later on BBC2 with subtitles and "signing" for the deaf.

Comedy is at the forefront with seasonal specials from Kenny Everett and Stanley Baxter, Christmas editions of *Allo! Allo!*, *Hi-de-Hi!* and *In Sickness and in Health*, the start of a new series of the *Last of the Summer Wine*, and some of the Christmas classics of *Morcambe and Wise*.

BBC stars in their own programmes include Paul Daniels, Bob Monkhouse, Les Dawson, Jimmy Savile, Russell Harty and Roland Rat and Terry Wogan will be seen meeting *Dallas* stars Larry Hagman and Linda Gray.

Michael Crawford will bring his hit musical *Barnum* to TV screens, and viewers will be able to go to the celebrity dinner celebrating Sir Harry Secombe's 40 years in show business.

Drama on the two networks include *Alan Ayckbourn's Season's Greetings*, with Geofrey Palmer and Anna Massey, Keith Waterhouse's *Slip-Up*, about Great Train Robber Ronnie Biggs and Hannah Gordon in an adaptation of a Thomas Hardy tale, *Day after Day*.

Feature films during the BBC's two-week festive season include *Tootsie*, with Dustin Hoffman, Steven Spielberg's *Pollux* and *1941*, Paul Newman in *The Verdict* and Meryl Streep in *Sophie's Choice*.

Music programmes will cater for a wide variety of tastes. Pavarotti's *Jubilee* will celebrate the tenor's 25 years at the top, an 80th birthday portrait of composer Aaron Copland will be screened, and there will be a ballet for Boxing Day - *Oeogin*.

Seasonal music will also come from Aled Jones, James Galway and Val Doonican.

Esther Rantzen will continue her campaign against child abuse with a *Childwatch* update, and there will be a *Review of the Year* with Peter Snow.

Over the 14 days about 100 hours of television will be accompanied by Cee-fax subtitles for the deaf.



Mr Noel Edmonds: back on the BBC at Christmas.

Times in stocked by 2 councils

has dangers

December 3 1986

PARLIAMENT

Commission on security is called for by Owen

SECURITY

In the light of the Peter Wright case which was a damning force, the case for maintaining the old system of trusting ministers alone to scrutinize the security services was no longer sustainable.

He moved a motion calling for the appointment of a joint committee of both Houses to be known as the Special Commission on the Security Services with power to send for persons papers and records.

He said that it was common ground that at a time of increased terrorist activity worldwide, and problems with East-West relations, Britain needed its security services.

But there was also a growing concern that it was no longer possible, with the degree of revelations occurring, for Parliament to understand the reasons, in 1979 broke with the precedent of not revealing information about the security services.

He was sorry that the Prime Minister was not in the chamber. It was Mrs Thatcher who, for understandable reasons, in 1979 broke with the precedent of not revealing information about the security services.

More and more people were realizing that the old system, of totally trusting the ministers concerned, was not working.

The special commission suggested in the motion was deliberately designed to involve members of both Houses.

It would also allow for the commission to have a chairman who was not a party political figure, or somebody who was no longer in the front line of party politics, such as a former prime minister.

The sooner such a commission was established, and it was

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Advance Petroleum Revenue Tax Bill, remaining stages. Lords (3): Recognition of Trusts Bill, Ministry of Defence Police Bill, and Broadcasting Bill, remaining readings. Debate on proposed oil pipeline through the North West.

Ministers accused of being apathetic

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Government and the electricity supply industry were both accused yesterday of inertia and apathy in failing to promote a pioneering form of energy technology that could double the efficiency of coal-fired power stations.

The accusation, made in a Commons select committee report, will cause considerable embarrassment in Whitehall. At the very moment it was being released, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, was praising the "outstanding success" of the Government's Energy Efficiency Year which ends this month.

The energy select committee's report reviews progress made since the Energy Act, 1983, which, among other things, laid a statutory duty on every electricity board to "adopt and support" joint public and private sector schemes to convert power stations so that heat given off in electricity generation can be tapped.

only a question of when that would happen, the less they would see the divulgence of some quite serious information damaging to the security services. It would also avoid the abuse of the order paper by which individuals had been named in recent weeks.

Dr Owen said he did not believe it would have prevented that, nor could it prevent some people indulging in treachery. The recruitment procedures at MI5 had been seriously defective but former prime ministers had tightened them up.

He had been advocating such a commission for years, and the motion was not purely and simply a response to the present anxieties.

In the Peter Wright case, it was common ground that Wright had betrayed the trust of those who employed him and set out to undermine the security services of this country.

The Government had been under considerable pressure to take the court action in Sydney but those who supported that action were entitled to ask the Government why it did not take action against Peter Wright when they knew he was a prime suspect for Fincher's book in 1981.

Allegations had been made, most recently and clearly in The Sunday Times, about MI5 having gained possession of that book six weeks in advance of its publication and the use of illegal methods. What sort of ministerial approval had to take place before MI5 could act illegally? Was such action given specific authorization by the then Home Secretary in this case?

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) asked how action could have been taken against Wright when he was living outside jurisdiction.

Dr Owen said it may have been difficult to take action against Wright immediately, but he had been in Britain since 1981. Indeed, in 1984 he appeared in the Granada television programme which was being re-run tonight. He was amazed that the programme was being allowed to go out without any form of challenge.

The word used most often to describe what had been happening in Sydney was farce. It had already damaged the reputation of a very senior and hitherto well respected senior civil servant, the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robert Armstrong.

It had not done the Government any good, though he did not believe the public would take it out on the Government in terms of party politics. He would only be those who were enjoying this running farce.

They were all sorry Mr Kinnoch was not there and the absence of the Prime Minister was very revealing. Yesterday, Mrs Thatcher had given the impression that she was going to withdraw the normal rights of consultation with the Leader of the Opposition.

Although it was bizarre that Mr Kinnoch had got on the telephone to the defence counsel who was representing the Crown, he was more of a fool than a knave, and it would be nice and juvenile if the Prime Minister

Heat and Power (CHP) say that only 32 per cent of the latent energy in coal is used in the generation of electricity. Through CHP 70 per cent of coal's energy could be tapped. The report concludes, however, that the Energy Act which was "intended to encourage the development of combined heat and power by the electricity supply industry has actually had the reverse effect".

The industry, for which CHB means electricity generation passing into the private sector, "does not have any commercial incentive to promote this technology" and continued to regard heat as a by-product of electricity generation.

"As long as this attitude prevails among the institutions with the real power to promote CHP, then this orphan technology will be prevented from entering into its inheritance."



Dr Owen seeking to put some teeth in the old watchdog.

Iraqi soldiers get some UK training

IRAN-IRAQ

Some members of the Iraqi armed forces received training at Ministry of Defence establishments in the United Kingdom in each of the years 1981 to 1986, Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during Commons questions.

A senior number of Iranian military personnel also received training at these establishments in the UK between 1981 and 1984. Mr Robert Wareing (Liverpool, West Derby, Lab) on what moral principles the Government's policy based?

Mr Robert Wareing (Liverpool, West Derby, Lab) on what moral principles the Government's policy based? Could he assure us that no further military personnel will be trained in this country from either Iran or Iraq and that he would investigate the activities of Jacob Nimrod who has a flat in London and, I understand, negotiates 80 per cent of Iran's imported arms procurement from an office in Victoria Street.

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On his last point, I have read these newspaper cuttings very carefully and we have no evidence of any illegal activity in relation to the purchasing of arms either for Iran or Iraq through this country.

Such purchasing arrangements are not illegal. What would be illegal is to try to export without a licence. If there is any evidence of that being done it will be investigated immediately.

Mr Robert Jackson (Wantage, C) Is it not in the interests of Britain and the West to seek to bring about a ceasefire in Iraq? Mr Renton: Yes. We will as a long-term objective seek to establish a better relationship with the Iranian Government.

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The Government's latest cold weather payments scheme must be changed while there was still time, Mr Michael Meacher, Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said while moving an Opposition motion calling for poor pensioners to be given a 25-a-week premium throughout the winter months.

In the first three months of this year, 578 people died of hypothermia. Many extra deaths occurred as a result of cold-related respiratory and circulatory conditions.

Severe weather payments would be made only when the temperature fell below minus 1.5 degrees Celsius over seven days from Monday to Sunday, as though the weather was neatly packaged into the convenient batches that nicely coincided with DHSS office hours.

Had that applied last year, no less than half the country would have been excluded. In February, when an estimated 7,000 elderly people died from cold, the average temperature was minus 0.9 degrees Celsius.

The Labour Party believed that a two-part programme was urgently called for. First, extra payments on a regular and automatic basis of £5 a week throughout the winter months for pensioners on supplementary benefit and for another million who were little better off.

guidelines first put into effect in December 1984. Sir John Farr (Harborough, C) What evidence does he have that training in the use of very sophisticated weapons is taking place by other European countries and in particular France? Mr Renton: We are not responsible either for training in other countries.

What we urge - and this is part of the campaign in which we have taken part not least at the United Nations - is that all countries who are suppliers of military equipment to either side should exercise as strict guidelines as we do.

Britain had taken the lead at the conference on disarmament in Geneva on seeking a worldwide ban on the production and storing of chemical weapons, Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said.

He was replying to Mr Ian Mikardo (Row and Poplar, Lab) who said that Britain should get together with its friends and allies to try to find some way of stopping or reducing the supply from Europe to Iran or Iraq of chemical weapons or equipment to make them.

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During a debate on an Opposition motion on insider dealing, a Conservative MP, Mr Stanley Smith (Roxburgh and Berwickshire, C), who is a chartered accountant, called for an example to be made of a "big fish" of insider dealing by sending that person to prison.

Opening the debate, Mr Robin Cook, an Opposition spokesman, moved a motion expressing concern at the evidence of insider dealing in the financial markets and the low clear-up rate, and rejecting the Government's policy of City self-regulation.

He said that insider dealing was theft. The wealth in which the City dealt every day did not belong to the City.

The source of all its power and wealth was the contributions to pension funds made by millions of workers and the insurance premiums paid by millions of ordinary men and women.

Mr Michael Howard, Under-Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, moved a government amendment congratulating the City and the Government on their efforts against insider dealing.

He said that insider dealing had become an offence through the Companies Act, 1980, but it had not been an easy offence to prove. There was no lack of willingness to prosecute. The problem was meeting the high standard of proof required.

The Financial Services Act contained powers to investigate insider dealer which could, without exaggeration, be described as draconian. Mr Alan Williams, for the Opposition, said that they were talking about crime on a massive and unprecedented scale. Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, said that houses were still being built without proper insulation. The Government could get that right and create about 50,000 jobs in the process.

Third set of plans for rate support derided by Labour

RATE SUPPORT

A third set of proposals for calculating rate-support grant to local authorities for next year has been made necessary because the data on which the grant would be based have changed, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, said when he answered Opposition criticisms about his change of mind.

Mr John Cunningham, Opposition spokesman on the Environment, said that the new basis for the grant was the result of a combination of Mr Ridley's ineptitude and of his desire to please by trying to give Conservative MPs with marginal seats. A Liberal accused him of gerrymandering, saying that he had introduced a new version of that device - "Wherrygandering".

Mr Ridley, answering Mr Cunningham's request for a statement, said in response to the proposals I made on October 22 that I have listened to the information affecting the data on which the grant is distributed. I have today announced revised proposals on which I am consulting local authority associations.

Mr Cunningham: This is an unprecedented situation. No previous secretary of state has ever needed three consultative documents between July and December to make up his mind. It is an indictment of his incompetence.

It is an indictment of the appalling mess to which the Government has reduced local government finance. Why, when he only made his second proposals in October and gave local authorities barely three weeks to reply, does he now change his mind yet again?

What is the purpose of the proposed changes? Which authorities will benefit? The majority of authorities will lose by the new proposals. The reasons are a combination of his ineptitude and a political pay-off to his Tory friends in marginal seats.

When will the details of the final decisions? Does he intend to abolish grant recycling which, according to the Treasury and Mr Ridley, will reduce grant to local authorities by at least £400 million next year. The result will hit higher rates for many millions of families.

The whole sorry story makes nonsense of the bluster and bravado we had from him in July. Ridley: It is rich of Mr Cunningham to quote precedent when Mr Peter Shore (a former Secretary of State for the Environment) is there. Whenever he made proposals for the

grant settlement, he came once, in December, to answer a written question saying what his decision was. By contrast, this Government has consulted, has put forward a consultation paper on October 23 and listened to the results. I have now put forward further proposals and will listen to further representations.

What an extraordinary example he wishes me to follow - to slip it down in December without consultation. I cannot accept that. I shall make up my mind about the final settlement when I have listened to the representations which may be received after these proposals.

The Government is proceeding with plans to end recycling grant, as announced on July 22. The reasons for the decision were the latest data on populations, capital allocations and expenditure in 1986-87 and about rateable values of authorities which make it clear that the basis of the October 23 settlement has been altered by the fact that the data had changed, making the authorities which did badly in October do even worse. It has been made necessary to correct the imbalance between the Ridley and Mr Hiddle (Mid Staffordshire, C). His consultations with MPs over the past month have been much appreciated (Labour laughter).

Mr Ridley: I have tried to listen and to make the necessary changes. We shall be more than willing to hear any MP who wishes to make representations on behalf of his authority in the light of the new proposals.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, Lab) This is a new form of gerrymander - the Ridley-mander - hiving votes where his friends would otherwise lose their seats by a system which they set up in 1980. The real reason is that Mr Ridley wants to know the outcome of the teachers' settlement before he knows what local authorities will require to spend for the forthcoming year.

Mr Jeremy Hayes (Harlow, C) I welcome his sensitive and flexible approach to this matter (more laughter).

Mr Ridley: It has not been a question of seeking to reward certain authorities and penalizing others. I have to operate within the 1980 Act and make sure that what I do is in accordance with the formula, on the basis which is the best defensible.

being singled out for attack. Lord Irving of Dartford, for the Opposition, said the Government, in buying Trident, was seeking to increase Britain's nuclear fire power by 800 per cent at a time when the superpowers were talking of a 50 per cent cut in nuclear weapons.

I believe in the special relationship with the United States. But it must be based on a lot more than the tame acceptance of Mr Reagan's policies. The only way to avoid the risk of conflict is by comprehensive arms control and relying on conventional arms for our defence. This desire for nuclear disarmament is at the heart of Labour's defence policy."

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Opening the debate, Mr Robin Cook, an Opposition spokesman, moved a motion expressing concern at the evidence of insider dealing in the financial markets and the low clear-up rate, and rejecting the Government's policy of City self-regulation. He said that insider dealing was theft. The wealth in which the City dealt every day did not belong to the City. The source of all its power and wealth was the contributions to pension funds made by millions of workers and the insurance premiums paid by millions of ordinary men and women. Mr Michael Howard, Under-Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, moved a government amendment congratulating the City and the Government on their efforts against insider dealing. He said that insider dealing had become an offence through the Companies Act, 1980, but it had not been an easy offence to prove. There was no lack of willingness to prosecute. The problem was meeting the high standard of proof required. The Financial Services Act contained powers to investigate insider dealer which could, without exaggeration, be described as draconian. Mr Alan Williams, for the Opposition, said that they were talking about crime on a massive and unprecedented scale. Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, said that houses were still being built without proper insulation. The Government could get that right and create about 50,000 jobs in the process. Labour would introduce a statutory code of practice on gas and electricity disconnections. The Opposition motion was rejected by 258 votes to 189 - Government majority, 69, and the Government amendment agreed to.

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

Mrs Thatcher is bound to be cheered by the latest opinion poll from MORI published in the London Standard on Tuesday. But it may also point to a dilemma that awaits her.

Coming on top of a number of favourable opinion polls last month it provides encouraging evidence for the Conservatives of their reviving fortunes. A lead of only two percentage points over Labour would probably not be enough for an overall majority of seats in a general election. But at this stage in the Government's life it is rather good.

If this trend continues over the next few months it is bound to increase the pressure in the party for a late spring or summer election. It would also increase the sense of public expectation. A pre-election atmosphere would build up unless it was firmly checked.

But I wonder if this would be altogether to Mrs Thatcher's liking. She is by nature more cautious than many people suppose, determined rather than daring. I doubt if she will be instinctively inclined towards an early election.

Private Tory polls offer no guidance

She needed a good deal of persuasion before agreeing to go to the country in June 1983, a year earlier than she had to, even though the party was particularly well placed.

The private Conservative opinion polls offer further encouragement but no conclusive guidance.

The Government seems to be making some headway in relieving public anxiety on education, though obviously Mrs Thatcher would want the teachers' dispute to be well out of the way before calling an election.

Health is evidently proving a more stubborn political problem. The Conservatives need a little more time to convince the country that the service really is safe in their hands.

These conflicting signs may well suggest that Mrs Thatcher would be wise to wait and see. But if she waits for too long without giving a clear signal she will find that she has put herself into a box.

Political leaders are usually acutely aware of the mistakes of their predecessors. Mrs Thatcher will need no reminding how Mr Callaghan suffered from postponing an election as the last minute in October 1978 after expectations had built up in the party and the country. She will want to avoid giving a similar impression of indecision.

This will present no problem if she does decide to go for an election next May or June. Nor will she have much difficulty if she rules that out in the first few months of next year. She could easily dampen expectation in good time by passing the word that an early election was not on the cards.

But it may be difficult to reach such a firm judgement so far in advance if the polls are favourable and party enthusiasm is mounting. With public opinion so liable to fluctuate, much could change in the meantime. I am not thinking particularly of the M15 case. Muddles are not exactly to be recommended for governments, but this excitement will have passed well before the election.

Dilemma facing the leadership

What if Mrs Thatcher were the less concludes that it would be sensible to await the results of the local government elections next May before deciding about the general election? If they were not so encouraging as she might hope, she would then be faced with a choice between going to the polls immediately simply because that was expected or saying no at what would seem to be the last minute.

If she chose the second course she would have to be careful not to give the impression that she had simply shirked the battle. This would mean that she would be all the more likely to emphasize the positive value of waiting, of the Government's seeing its task through. In which case it might then be difficult to make an October election seem natural.

I would therefore draw two conclusions. Although the Government's prospects now look encouraging, Mrs Thatcher would be wise not to allow election expectations to get out of hand. If she does let that happen the election would then be more likely either this summer or in 1988, rather than in October.

Call for more tax aid for forests

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

A House of Lords committee today comes out strongly in favour of encouraging farmers to plant forests on good quality, but unwanted, farmland, backed up by more generous tax incentives.

Its report supports proposals being considered by Mr Michael Jopling, Minister for Agriculture, on finding other uses for the land acceptable to farmers, environmentalists and the Treasury.

But it will not be so welcome with his rivals at the Department of Environment who are worried about the effects of large afforestation schemes.

The committee, chaired by Lord Gallacher, urges an investigation into exempting forestry schemes from capital gains tax. It also criticizes the way the tax exemption scheme does not benefit small farmers, who have to rely on grant aid to plant woodland. But the EEC should also accept some financial responsibility for replacing food crops with forestry, it states. Present estimates show that Britain imports about £4,500 million worth of timber a year - 90 per cent of its needs. The new forests being planted will see that figure drop to about 80 per cent by the end of the century. But 87 per cent of new planting has been in Scotland, mainly of conifers on poor quality land. The report, which will be debated in the Lords, states: "The committee recognizes that forestry is a potential use for better quality land coming out of agriculture. "They are sceptical however about the amount of land which will, or indeed should, be planted and whether the emphasis being placed on the use of broadleaves would be economically viable. Most witnesses told the peers that they favoured the use of better quality land because of the damage caused to upland areas and wildlife, such as the red grouse, by dense plantations. The committee accepted that the habitats of threatened wildlife species also need protection. House of Lords Select Committee on the European Communities: Forestry Policy (Stationery Office: £4.60).

Winter payments Scheme 'has to be changed'

PENSIONERS

The following is a summary of Commons debates that appeared in later editions of this newspaper yesterday. The Government's latest cold weather payments scheme must be changed while there was still time, Mr Michael Meacher, Opposition spokesman on health and social security, said while moving an Opposition motion calling for poor pensioners to be given a 25-a-week premium throughout the winter months.

In the past two winters the Government had tragically failed to exercise its power to prevent the needless deaths of many elderly people from hypothermia and cold-related conditions.

Mr Meacher had to say, the number of deaths in 1984-85 had been 638, last year it had been 634 and the average was 643. The highest figure in the past 10 years had in fact occurred in 1978-79 when 725 had been recorded, so the Government needed no lectures from the Opposition.

It was true that winter mortality rates among the elderly were proportionally higher in this country than others which also had hard winters, such as America and Sweden, but there had been a steady decline over the past 20 years.

Mr Meacher's winter premium looked as though it would cost another £50 million and possibly more. It had not been part of the Opposition's original list of absolute priorities in its September statement.

"Is it an absolute pledge, in which case it is another rung on Mr Hattersley's cash register? Or is it a pious hope, in which case Mr Meacher is deeply deceiving us?"

Mr Archie Kirkwood (Roxburgh and Berwickshire, L) said that the absolute temperature limit fixed was very low and too restrictive. Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on energy, said that houses were still being built without proper insulation. The Government could get that right and create about 50,000 jobs in the process. Labour would introduce a statutory code of practice on gas and electricity disconnections. The Opposition motion was rejected by 258 votes to 189 - Government majority, 69, and the Government amendment agreed to.

UNIVERSITY

صحة من الامل

Life for man who shot and killed gardener with home-made rifle

Three hooded burglars who used crossbows and a home-made rifle during a robbery which left a gardener and a dog dead were yesterday given jail sentences and youth custody.

Terence Clark was found guilty at Lewes Crown Court, East Sussex, of murdering Mr William Austin, aged 34, and wounding Mrs Ellen Ditcher, aged 76, a widow, with intent to cause her grievous bodily harm, in a robbery at her manor house at Otham, near Maidstone, Kent, in July last year.

He was jailed for life and Mr Justice Saville recommended that he should serve at least 25 years.

His son, Martin, aged 20, and Steve Dougal, aged 21, were found guilty of manslaughter and unlawfully wounding Mrs Ditcher. Martin Clark was sentenced to 10 years' youth custody and Dougal was jailed for 10 years. All three admitted robbery.

Mrs Ditcher was hit by three bullets fired by Terence Clark from a home-made rifle. His son and Dougal were armed with crossbows, which they took along to maim a great dane and two boxer dogs.

The judge praised Mrs Ditcher's bravery and composure. "She is an indomitable

old lady," he said. She was wounded and had been tied up, but she repeatedly asked to be allowed to go and help her mortally wounded gardener.

During the three-week trial the jury was told that the three men, all wearing black hoods, attacked the manor house late at night and kicked in the back door.

Mr Austin was shot by Terence Clark when he came downstairs from his second-floor flat to see what was going on. He bled to death while the robbers searched the house and stole cash, jewellery and antiques worth £6,000.

Terence Clark also shot dead the great dane and Mrs Ditcher, who was wounded, was tied up for more than two hours before she freed herself and went to a neighbour for help.

The three men were also sentenced for robbing a public house a month earlier, which they admitted.

Clark, his son and Dougal tied up Mrs Gwendoline Farmer, aged 49, landlady of The Bull at Darrford, Kent, and stole £13,000 worth of jewellery, furs and cash in June 1985.

Mr Justice Saville said: "This involved breaking into premises you knew were occu-

piated by a woman living on her own and threatening violence to her in order to obtain her co-operation in robbing her of her possessions".

Terence Clark, of Longham Copse, near Maidstone, was jailed for 10 years, to run concurrently with his life sentence.

The judge sentenced Martin Clark, of Edenbridge Close, St Mary Cray, Kent, and Dougal, of Coismendene Crescent, St Paul's Cray, Kent, who were both aged 19 at the time, to six years for their part in the Darrford robbery, to run concurrent with the manslaughter sentences.

The judge said Terence Clark was a professional burglar who had graduated to armed robbery and he told the two younger men they had taken part in joint enterprises and must take some of the responsibility for the death of Mr Austin.

The judge told Terence Clark: "I accept that when you went into that house you had no idea there was anyone else there apart from Mrs Ditcher. But when you did realize this you had no hesitation in using the weapon you were carrying to remove this obstacle to your plan to rob an old lady in her own home."

King Elvis will rule his tribe from afar

By David Sapsed

King Elvis Johnson-Idan, otherwise Breat council's parks manager, found time to relax yesterday as he prepared for his coronation, later this month, as ruler of 10,000 Fanti tribesmen living on the coastal plains of Ghana, West Africa. His elevation to the throne has caught both Mr Johnson-Idan and his British-born wife, Queen Elizabeth, a part-time telephonist, by surprise.

But at their semi-detached home in Camberley, Surrey, yesterday both pledged to take their responsibilities seriously. Mr Johnson-Idan, aged 36, was nominated as king, or "mana", of part of the Fanti tribe by elders this autumn. "We knew he was of royal blood but we expected one of his four older brothers to be appointed," Mrs Johnson-Idan said.

The coronation will take place at Jukwaa, in Ghana, on December 23 but, after that, Mr Idan-Johnson intends to return to his job of looking after Breat's parks and flower beds in north London.

He will, however, visit the tribespeople be left more than a decade ago, at least twice a year. "I shall not rule as a dictator but as head of a group of people deciding tribal affairs," he said.



King Elvis, his wife and daughter, at home yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris)

Train hits trailer on crossing

Passengers on a commuter train escaped injury yesterday when it hit a trailer full of cattle fodder on a crossing at Ryhope, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, carrying it 350 yards down the track.

Police praised Mr Geoffrey Wright, aged 21, a farm worker, for his quick thinking in racing down the line waving his arms to warn the driver of the train, the 7.15 from Middlesbrough to Newcastle upon Tyne, carrying about 80 passengers.

His action gave the driver time to brake and slow the train from its usual speed of 60mph.

Northumbria police said: "It seems that without the quick thinking in slowing down the train there could have been serious injuries in the crash".

It is thought that the tractor's wheels had become stuck between the rails of the farm accommodation crossing.

The train came to a halt next to Town Farm, Ryhope, where Mr Wright worked. The accident came hours after a fire at the farm, owned by Mr Alan Davidson, destroyed a barn and 100 tons of hay. Yesterday firemen were still damping it down.

The crash led to temporary closure of the line, but a single track was reopened later. The train was not seriously damaged.

COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

Mrs Thatcher is bound to be cheered by the latest opinion poll from MORI published in the *London Standard* on Tuesday. But it may also point to a dilemma that awaits her.

Coming on top of a number of favourable opinion polls in the next few months it provides evidence for the Conservatives of their revised fortunes. A lead of only two percentage points over Labour would probably not be enough for a general election. But at a stage in the Government's life it is rather good.

If this trend continues over the next few months it is bound to increase the pressure in the party for a late summer election. It would increase the scope of public expectation, and the consequences if it was disappointed.

But I wonder if this would be altogether to Mrs Thatcher's liking. She is a creature of cautious habit. She would suppose, determined rather than daring, that if she will be installed in office it will be in a very short time.

Private T. P. polls offer no guidance

She has not had a single persuasion of her own to go to the polls in the next year. She has even known that she would be particularly unpopular.

The private opinion polls encourage the Conservative to give guidance.

The polls are to be made available to the public. The Conservative Party has a long tradition of openness.

That is why the Conservative Party has a long tradition of openness. The Conservative Party has a long tradition of openness.

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Church in favour of state aid

By Clifford Longley Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Welfare State needs an injection of new vision and idealism to protect it from being dismantled in the name of right-wing beliefs, a Church of England report declares today.

Christians cannot accept an individualistic philosophy which demands that everyone should stand on their own feet, it states.

The report, which is expected to be debated by the General Synod in February, is the result of a church working party set up to consider the theological basis for church endorsement of the theory of the Welfare State.

It argues that the poor "are a living reminder to the rest of society of its fallibility and weakness. Extremes of wealth and poverty are a consequence of sin, and witness to the conscious or unconscious capacity for injustice of the rich and powerful, and the consequent disintegration of society."

Christians had also to be concerned at the present division in society, the report states. They could not approve a system which allowed a large minority of the population to live at a level which sank lower and lower in comparison with the wage-earning majority.

"The grim facts of gross inequality between the very rich and the poor is not just a social misfortune but a social evil."

Mother and child die in 100ft fall

Miss Tina Leadbetter, aged 26, of Betchley, Milton Keynes, an unmarried mother, and her child, aged one, fell more than 100 feet to their deaths yesterday.

The mother died instantly and her daughter three hours later in hospital.

Miss Leadbetter is said to have been depressed about the possibility of social services staff taking her child into care.

Jasmine officer in job appeal

Mrs Diane Dietmann, a senior social worker who was dismissed for alleged "gross misconduct" in the handling of the Jasmine Beckford case, asked a High Court judge for her job back yesterday.

In a sworn statement read to Mr Justice Hodgson she said that she was "shocked and stunned" when Brent social services dismissed her in December last year after an inquiry report.

Mr John Hendy, counsel for Mrs Dietmann, said that there was no hearing for her to defend the report's allegation of gross negligence against her, before the social services committee accepted the recommendation to dismiss her.

She is suing for a declaration that her dismissal was invalid, void and of no effect, and an injunction restraining her, or alternatively, damages for wrongful dismissal.

Jasmine Beckford, aged four, died in July 1984, after being tortured and starved by her parents, who were later jailed. A report criticized the social services.

Mr Hendy said that although for the purposes of the action Mrs Dietmann was prepared to accept the findings of the report, the allegations against her had always been denied. She would deny them "strenuously" in the future.

He said the vital matter to be decided was whether her contract of employment allowed her to be dismissed without notice for gross misconduct when the allegation against her was gross negligence.

Mrs Dietmann, of Tudor Well Close, Stanmore, north London, alleges that the terms of her employment cannot be extended that far and that instant dismissal is restricted to cases of criminal acts or intent.

In her statement Mrs Dietmann said that the way the decision was taken was a flagrant breach of her terms of employment, the rules of natural justice and her employer's duty to act reasonably.

Brent are defending the claim, and deny any breach of contract.

The hearing continues.

Police dispute claim by Ripper victim's mother

West Yorkshire Police challenged yesterday the "enormous and vast" duty of care which a court is being asked to impose on them by the mother of the Yorkshire Ripper's last victim.

Mrs Doreen Hill, aged 52, of Leatholm Crescent, Ormesby, Middlesbrough, claims that her daughter Jacqueline would be alive today if the police had not failed in their duty to catch Peter Sutcliffe before she became his thirteenth victim.

But Mr Alan Rawley, QC, for Mr Colin Sampson, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, told the Court of Appeal that if Mrs Hill was right, the police would have owed a duty of care to any unaccompanied woman in the proximity of Sutcliffe when he was in a "murderous mood", wherever he might have been at the time.

Mr Rawley said: "Indeed, Sutcliffe was arrested in a car in Sheffield, which is outside the West Yorkshire Police area.

"If you can't limit it in terms of geographical area, do you say the duty of care

extends and is owed to any unaccompanied woman wherever Peter Sutcliffe may be?"

"How far do you go out of the area of the West Yorkshire Police? To London? To the Home Counties? Abroad? The other side of the world if Sutcliffe chose to emigrate because he thought things were getting too hot for him here but wished to continue with his career of murder?"

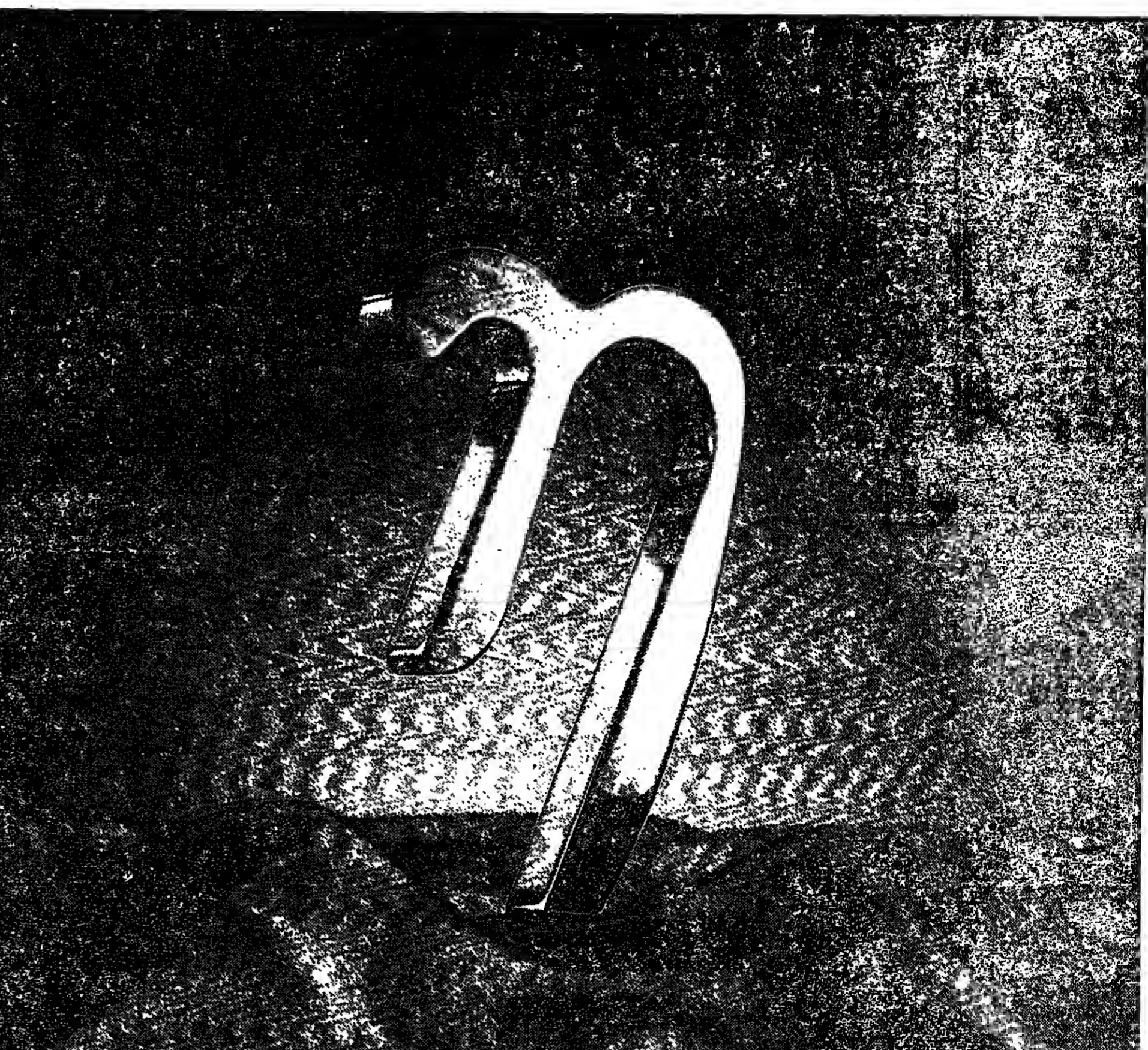
"One is faced with a duty which, if it exists, would be of an enormous and vast type."

Jacqueline Hill, aged 20, was murdered in November, 1980 while walking from a bus stop to her hall of residence at Leeds University.

Her mother is appealing against a High Court ruling which blocked her bid to sue the police for damages.

Last December, Sir Neil Lawson ruled that she could not establish that the police owed a special duty of care to her daughter.

The appeal hearing, before Lord Justice Fox, Lord Justice Goff and Sir Kenneth Cumming-Bruce, continues.



It's worth over £2.1 million

In Energy Efficiency Year what could be more appropriate than news of major energy savings and greater productivity in British industry? Well, this year 28 UK companies between them have saved nearly £1 million on energy and £2.1 million in all by switching to electricity, with an average payback of less than two years.

As if that weren't reward enough, each one also received a regional PEP (Power for Efficiency and Productivity) Award - the Electricity Supply Industry's way of recognising companies who have made more effective use of energy and reaped major benefits.

Productivity up with 80% energy cost saving
Now congratulations go to the two national winners: Lennox Foundry Limited, who have reduced energy costs by 80% and produce better castings faster since switching from oil-fired to electric melting. And Peugeot Talbot's Ryton car plant, where electric infra-red curing is helping to achieve lower warranty claims and higher standards of finish than in any other Peugeot factory in Europe. Overall savings repaid Peugeot's investment in just four months.

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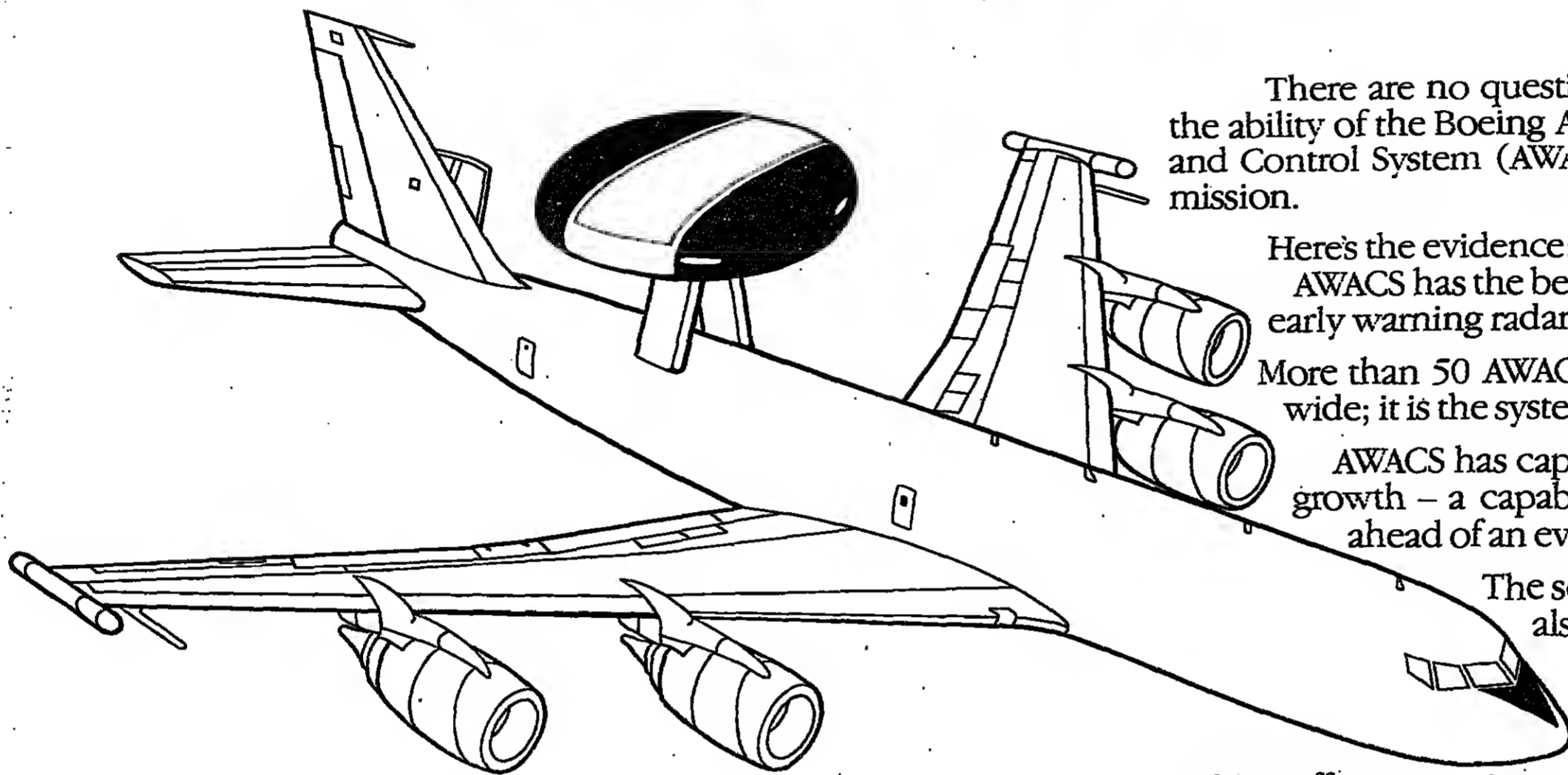
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This means that for every 100 million pounds Britain spends with Boeing on AWACS, Boeing and its industry team will place 130 million pounds of work in the United Kingdom.

It means a new partnership; a unique opportunity for Britain in the continuing export markets for AWACS and in a wide range of related advanced technologies - computers and data processing, power systems, advanced radars, electronic warfare, communications, advanced aircraft and flight management systems - technologies that are in demand and that will create thousands of jobs throughout Britain.

This offset commitment has been welcomed by British industry across the country.

Boeing and its team have consistently exceeded their past offset commitments.

Already, Boeing and Westinghouse, the AWACS radar supplier, have partnership agreements with three of Britain's largest defence contractors - Plessey, Racal and Ferranti. These international partnerships will extend well beyond AWACS.

Here's exactly where we stand:

First, AWACS is a proven, technologically superior system.

Second, AWACS is the most cost-effective solution to meet the needs of the Royal Air Force for years to come.

Third, the Boeing team will honour its offset commitments.

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Threat to
sue over
PC's death

مركز الأبحاث

MPs criticize Inland Revenue 'failure' over mortgage relief

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Inland Revenue is sharply criticized for "lack of foresight" in a report by MPs published yesterday.

The main complaint is that it failed to foresee that Mortgage Interest Relief at Source (Miras) would lead to a £2.25 billion increase in government tax relief expenditure in the two years after its introduction in 1983.

The report by the Commons Public Accounts Committee says the effect of Miras was to make low-cost endowment mortgages, which attract greater tax relief than repayment mortgages, much more competitive.

The proportion of endowment mortgages more than doubled, from 25 per cent of new mortgages, and the total value of mortgage interest relief rose from £2.5 billion to £4.75 billion.

The report says that the committee found it difficult to believe the Inland Revenue's claim that the increased popularity of endowment mortgages accounted for less than £100 million of this increase.

"We are surprised that the Inland Revenue did not foresee the increased attractiveness of endowment mortgages," it says.

Alarmed by the "open-ended nature" of the Government's tax relief commitment, the report recommends that mortgage tax relief should be subject "to similar standards of monitoring and control" as other demand-led expenditure approved by Parliament, such as supplementary benefit.

The report also challenges the Inland Revenue to justify the present system whereby two single people buying a property jointly can each take out £30,000 mortgages and claim tax relief, whereas married couples are restricted to relief on just one £30,000 mortgage.

The Inland Revenue said it was a loophole rather than a policy, but the report says: "It seems to us an anomaly which is unfavourable to married couples. We therefore suggest that if it is to be retained, the policy objective which underlies it should be made clear."

It goes on to question the efficiency of Inland Revenue's efforts to prevent fraudulent tax relief claims, not only on mortgages but also on life assurance policies.

The committee is "disturbed" that 93 companies have so far been identified by the Inland Revenue as "failing to permit a straight-

forward verification of reimbursement claims" and "concerned at the potential number of still unidentified cases". It urges a speeding up of the eight-year cycle of control visits.

It also questions the Inland Revenue's reluctance to ask for receipts to back up claims for tax relief on home improvement loans.

The Comptroller and Auditor General had suggested such a course, and "it seems to us that this would be a simple exercise in corroboration", the report says.

Both Miras and Lapras (Life Assurance Premium Relief at Source) were introduced mainly to cut staff. The report notes that the Inland Revenue achieved 3,000 reductions, although it was unable to say whether the job losses corresponded to the actual work saved in practice.

The committee concludes that it is "fundamental to good management" that job losses should correspond to work saved, and calls for improvements.

Fifty-second report of the Committee of Public Accounts: Life Assurance Premium Relief and Mortgage Interest Relief at Source (Stationery Office, £3.10).



Winning smiles yesterday from Bobby Davro, voted most popular professional comedian in a poll run by TV-am's *Good Morning Britain*, and Miss Rene Tully, aged 58, a London traffic warden who was named the Funniest Person in Britain (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

Pupils plant for posterity

By Ian Smith

Children at a village primary school near Barnsley made their own contribution to history yesterday by launching a pilot project to protect the environment for future generations. The £60,000 scheme was officially launched when youngsters at Fildstone School started planting 1,050 trees on

their playing fields. As the vegetation grows it will blend with adjoining school areas earmarked for a wildlife meadow and butterfly garden. The Community Action in Rural Environment scheme (CARE) will run for three years and will be funded by the Countryside Commission, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Peak Park Joint Planning Board and seven parish councils.

The scheme is designed to encourage care and understanding for the local countryside by involving the community. An independent evaluation of its success will be made by Bradford University.

Nimrod or Awacs decision expected before Christmas

By Peter Davenport, Defence Correspondent

The final recommendation on which aircraft will provide the next generation of airborne early warning radar, the homegrown Nimrod or the American Boeing E-3 Awacs, will be made at a meeting of Civil Servants and technical experts today.

Members of the Ministry of Defence's Equipment Policy Committee, which includes representatives from the Treasury and Foreign Office, are expected to prepare a paper outlining their decision, which Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, will study over the weekend.

Mr Younger is expected to review the committee's recommendation with Lord Trefgarne, the Defence Procurement Minister. The Government will probably announce its decision before Christmas.

GEC argues that the Nimrod system is cheaper, specifically designed for UK tasks and that the first three aircraft could be with the RAF by next autumn.

It realizes, however, that it has still to convince some sceptical senior air force officers that the system will work and meet all their requirements now many of the original faults have been ironed out.

A decision against Nimrod

will virtually write off the £900 million of taxpayers money already spent, mean instant redundancy for 2,500 staff employed on the project at GEC and associated companies and effectively end hopes of up to £2 billion of export deals with the avionics system of the aircraft.

GEC has recently been running an expensive advertising campaign arguing that while both aircraft will defend Britain, only Nimrod will defend British industry. Some observers have interpreted that as a sign that the company may be worried the decision is slipping away from it.

Boeing, which has the advantages of a system that is already operational and of proven capabilities, has countered the employment argument by offering an unprecedented 130 per cent of offset work for UK companies which, it claims, will create 8,000 jobs over the eight years of the programme.

But it will not be able to supply the first aircraft for three years although it is understood to have suggested to the MoD that three Awacs on loan from the USAF to Saudi Arabia, pending delivery of its own aircraft, could be made available to bridge the gap.

In the EEC chair: 4

Tenacity has bred qualified success

In the final part of his review of Britain's six months leadership of the EEC, Robin Oakley, Political Editor, assesses the successes and failures.

On the big eye-catching issues, Britain's presidency of the Common Market cannot be called an unqualified success.

In September 1984, the EEC partners agreed: "If one partner suffers serious terrorist activity involving the abuse of diplomatic immunity, the partners will be ready to consider common action in response".

When, in October this year, Britain presented those partners with a dossier of evidence of the Syrian Embassy's involvement in the Hindawi plot to blow up an El-Al airliner, it called for a ban on arms sales, a limitation of Syrian Embassy activities, a curb on visits by Syrian delegations and a freeze on EEC aid.

The response was lukewarm. Only six of the 12 foreign ministers turned up in person, with the French and German foreign secretaries preferring a night at the opera. It was, Sir Geoffrey Howe said: "A less adequate signal to Syria than we would have wished".

But if ever there was an institution where the motto is "if at first you don't succeed... it is the EEC. And if ever there was a minister temperamentally suited to trying and trying again it is Sir Geoffrey. We used our veto on aid to Syria.

We kept up the barrage and, on November 10, he got his package of measures, with only Greece opting out.

A package of sanctions against South Africa was achieved in the end, though a somewhat token one. And Sir Geoffrey's two miserable visits to Southern Africa as spokesman of the EEC did not provoke claims that he was out articulating the European voice, so far as it could be heard.

Sir Geoffrey's quiet resolution in the threatened trade war with the United States has won us grudging respect for being more Community-minded than we were.

In the battles over US grain imports, the pasta and citrus disputes, the counter-threats by America to curb imports of whisky, brandy and special steels, Sir Geoffrey left no doubt of his sincerity in the

belief that Europe "must demonstrate its ability to match measure with counter-measure".

On the grand stage issues, Europe's performance is still a poor one, but it has been worse under the British presidency. On the smaller practicalities of political co-operation, there has been progress, notably in the moves by Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, to stiffen Europe's borders against terrorists and to step up the war against drug traffickers.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, sums up Britain's aims thus: "The only barriers we want to see are those against terrorism. The only protectionism we want is that directed against drugs."

There is no doubt that Britain and her partners are reaching for the phone more often and are thinking instinctively towards EEC rather than national solutions to problems.

The key to the comparative British success is that we are working out in isolation but as part of a three-presidency rolling programme, linked with the Dutch, who preceded us, and the Belgians who follow.

We have learned that you win more battles in Europe by squaring your opponents in advance, and that you judge your results in the medium and long term as well as in immediate benefits.

Change lies ahead, with majority voting, which will stop single states blocking progress for ever on a technical, protectionist point. As Mrs Chalker says: "Already, we as president are using the onset of the Single European Act to try to persuade the legates that it is better to negotiate a compromise now than to be out-voted later".

Sir Geoffrey Howe reflected at the outset: "The real test of any presidency is how well it keeps business moving along".

Whether Mrs Thatcher wins all 13 points of the package she is hoping for at the European Summit this weekend or only six, it is clear that Britain has not only kept the business moving but actually increased the momentum.

You may need the goodwill of the orchestra to make real European music. But at least we have shown that we know how to use the baton.

Concluded.

Threat to sue over PC's death

The Police Federation may take legal action against Stoke Trent City Council after the death of Police Constable John Taylor, who fell to his death from a seven-storey block of flats 11 days ago.

Photographs of the stairway window at Honeywell Court, Penkull, which gave way while PC Taylor was grappling with a suspect, have been forwarded to legal experts.

PC Taylor, who lived at Westbury Park, Newcastle West, died when the window gave way and he fell 50ft to his death. A Birmingham man has been charged with his murder.

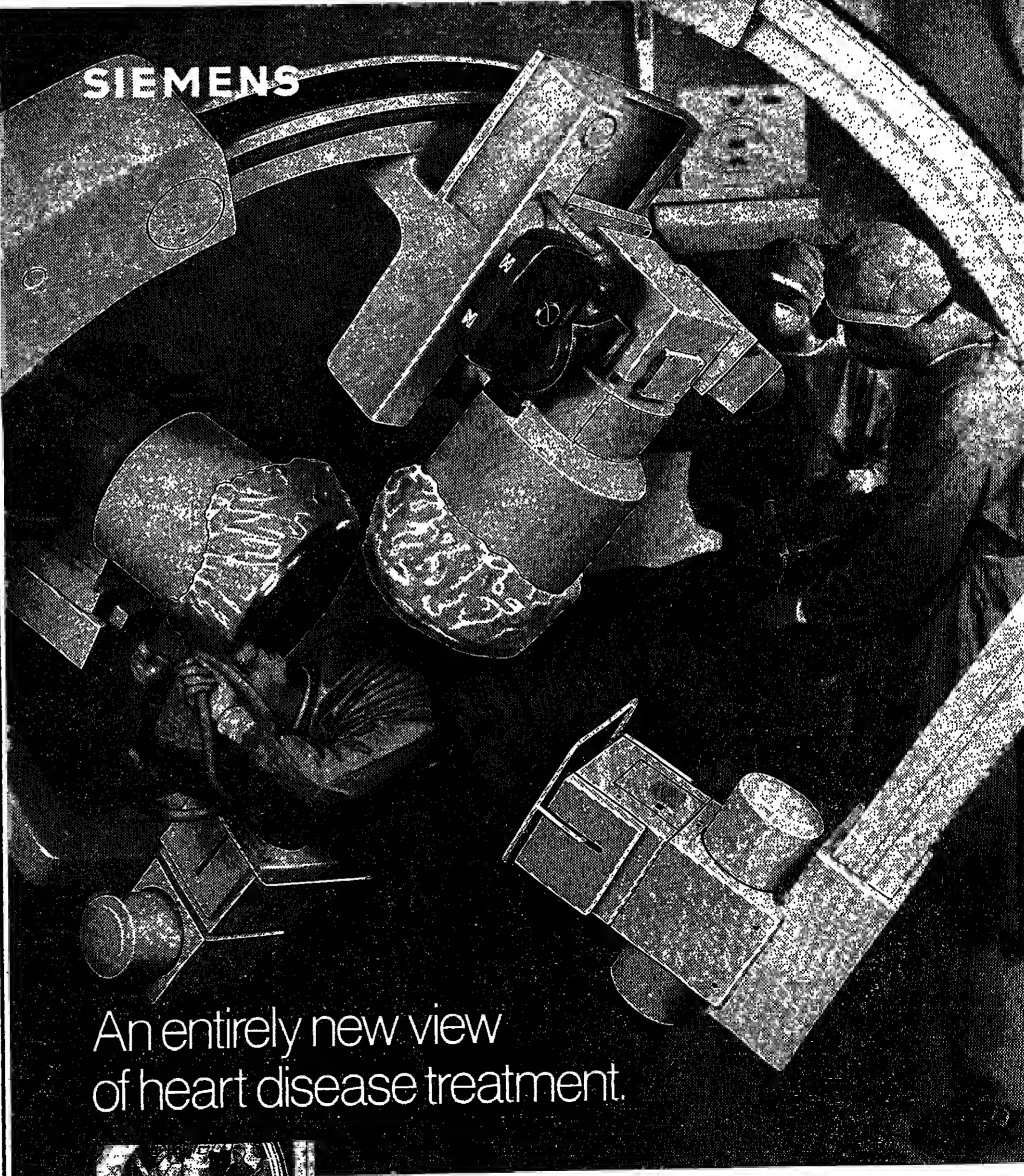
The funeral of the policeman, who was aged 26, will be held in Stoke this morning.

Reply by judge to sexist jibe

The judge dubbed "a sexist" by a woman motorist defended himself yesterday. Judge Anthony Goodall, aged 70, hit the headlines after advising Mrs Wendy Birch, aged 37, a teacher, to "switch off the charm" with policemen to avoid prosecution.

The judge, speaking during a lunch adjournment at Exeter Crown Court, said: "The object of my remark was to point out to Mrs Birch how stupid it was to be rude to the police".

He infuriated Mrs Birch on Tuesday after she successfully appealed against a conviction for driving without insurance. She was unsuccessful in appeals against convictions for speeding and failing to produce a driving licence.



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Savings
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Plot to kidn

A plot to kidnap the British Ambassador in Jordan in order to extract money from arrested members of the Far-Right terrorist organization has been uncovered by police intelligence during a search of two Middle East intelligence sources.

The two men, Mr. Al-Harbi and Mr. Adnan Mustafa, were among nine people who have been indicted over the killing of Mr. Zuhair al-Masri, the First Secretary at the Jordanian Embassy in July last year.

According to the sources, both men have made statements which include valuable information about various key intelligence activities in Jordan connected to the Far-Right organization.

حكاية من الاعمال

WORLD SUMMARY

Hanoi frees Thai seamen for cash

Bangkok - The last of almost 500 Thai fishermen imprisoned in Vietnam for up to six years returned home yesterday after the payment of fines of \$350,000 (£245,000) by the Thai Government (Neil Kelly writes).

Epidemic spreading

Lagos (Reuters) - The Nigerian Health Minister, Mr Koye Ransome-Kuti, confirmed yesterday that a yellow fever epidemic had spread to four states.

Bugging protest

Copenhagen - Denmark lodged a strong official protest with the Polish Government yesterday after uncovering listening devices in its embassy in Warsaw (Christopher Follett writes).

Death plane puzzle

Los Angeles - A small private plane which collided with an Aeromexico jet in August, killing 82 people, was never spotted on the radar screen, according to the air traffic controller involved (Ivor Davis writes).

Savings plan dies

Oslo - The Norwegian Government has dropped its proposals for a compulsory savings scheme, which it announced only on Friday, after a chorus of criticism led by the trade unions, the minority Labour administration's natural constituents (Tony Samstag writes).

Antarctic oil claim

Wellington (Reuters) - New Zealand scientists claim to have discovered traces of oil deep below the sea floor of the southern Antarctic continent.

Warning for Daniloff

Moscow - Izvestia hinted yesterday that if Nicholas Daniloff, right, publishes a book detailing his two-week stay in a Soviet prison in September this year then the KGB will release transcripts of his interrogation (A Correspondent writes).



Battle drags to dredge Rhine of factory poison

The removal of toxic chemicals deposited in the bed of the River Rhine after the Basel chemical plant blaze on November 1 is taking far longer than expected.

destroyed in a single night and confidence has to be re-established at any price. President Egli of Switzerland, who is also the Environment Minister, told a joint meeting of both houses of Parliament.

Plot to kidnap British ambassador

A plot to kidnap the British Ambassador in Turkey, in order to exchange him for arrested members of the Abu Nidal terrorist organization, Nidal authorities had been keeping in close touch with them after the arrests because of information supplied by the suspects.

The Foreign Office said yesterday it was unaware of any plot to kidnap the ambassador in Ankara. Sir Mark Russell, but confirmed that the Turkish authorities had been keeping in close touch with them after the arrests because of information supplied by the suspects.

President Reagan reaps benefits after reasserting his authority

Congress anger as dismissed advisers keep their silence

From Michael Einyon, Washington

America has given a warm welcome to the measures announced by President Reagan on Tuesday to quell the Iran furore, but Congress has been angered by the refusal of key figures in the affair to answer questions at the opening of its inquiry.



The Republican leadership discussing with reporters yesterday their meeting with President Reagan: from left, the House minority Leader, Mr Robert Michel; House minority Whip, Mr Trent Lott; and Senate majority Leader, Mr Robert Dole.

Crisis in the White House

Colonel North invoked his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination at least 40 times during questioning, refusing to answer questions about his role.

Rebel aid policy at heart of scandal

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

More talks on Afghan settlement

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

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Currys advertisement for computer deals. Features 'New Spectrum+2 Deal' for £159.99, 'SINCLAIR 128K COMPUTER' for £139.98, 'AMSTRAD 64k COMPUTER' for £199.99, and 'AMSTRAD 512k WORD PROCESSOR' for £499. Includes 'NO ONE BEATS OUR CHRISTMAS PRICES' slogan and 'NOW IN STOCK' banner.

Kinnock warns US bid to block anti-nuclear policy could backfire

From Robin Oakley, Political Editor, Washington

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, has warned America that any attempt to pressurize a Labour government, which would be committed to a policy of closing down US nuclear bases in Britain, could have dire consequences for its worldwide intelligence network.

After his Harvard defence speech, Mr Kinnock recalled how America had taken reprisals against New Zealand following the refusal of its Labour Government to admit US nuclear vessels into the country's ports.

The US withdrawal of co-operation in the Anzus defence pact had lost it a very small part of its intelligence communications and armour in the South Pacific, he said.

He warned that any similar reprisals against a British Labour government would be a "gigantic act of cutting off nose to spite face" which would result in a significant loss of intelligence and communication facilities safeguarding the domestic security of the US.

Mr Kinnock added: "I would not respond to antagonism from the USA in that way, because I believe in the defence of the USA. But it would be a temptation for other governments or for public sentiment in Britain - which I think can be restrained, but it is there."

Mr Kinnock's oblique warning reflects Labour's confidence that it has plenty to bargain with to counter any American temptation to pressure a Labour government by economic or other means to reverse its militarist policies.

The Labour leader is being careful not to use the language of direct confrontation while at the same time making clear his bargaining position.

He believes that the installations on British territory are critical to America's domestic defence and intelligence needs, as well as to the Nato alliance.

Reprisals against Britain, Mr Kinnock warned, would result in the loss of essential facilities "in Europe, in the Indian Ocean, in the Mediterranean and in the Far East".

The 135 US military facilities in Britain include 25 main bases and headquarters, 35 minor and reserve bases and 75 other installations.

Britain makes available to the US the early-warning site at Fylingdales, a submarine watching station in Pembrokeshire, and a range of other communications and intelligence facilities, such as those at Cheltenham GCHQ, at Edzell in Scotland, at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, in Cyprus and in Hong Kong.

Wimpish image, page 16

Canadian Liberals swing to the left

From John Best, Ottawa

The Liberal Party of Canada, which stands in good chance of forming the government within about two years, has taken a sharp tilt to the left on questions of foreign and defence policy.

Delegates to a weekend Liberal convention here voted to make Canada a nuclear-weapons-free zone and to stop the testing of American cruise missiles in Canadian airspace.

They favoured a superpower nuclear weapons freeze and a comprehensive nuclear test ban, and came out against Canadian involvement in the President Reagan's Star Wars programme.

They defeated a resolution calling for Canadian "non-alignment", but approved a series of other resolutions which would have the effect of subordinating Canada-US defence co-operation to the priority of safeguarding Canadian sovereignty, especially in the Arctic theatre.

The shift to the left by the Liberals - who were in power until September 1984 - is reminiscent of the leftward swing of the British Labour Party since it has been out of office.

It presents a difficult dilemma for Mr John Turner, who won a resounding vote of confidence from the convention as party leader, but now has to decide how to play the resolutions in preparing the Liberal election platform. The next election is expected in 1988.

The Liberals are a middle-of-the-road party and Mr Turner, aged 57, is in that tradition, with a slight bias to the right-of-centre.

The Opposition leader takes seriously Canada's responsibility to Nato - this country, under a Liberal government, helped to found the alliance in 1949 - and to collective defence generally.

Mr Turner told a post-convention press conference that he found the resolutions "highly persuasive".

It was a Liberal government which in 1983 entered into a highly controversial five-year agreement with the Americans permitting experimental flights of unarmed Air-launched cruise missiles (ALCMs) over northern Canada.

The present Conservative Government, citing alliance obligations, has pledged to abide by the accord, while condemning the recent US breakout from the strategic weapons ceilings imposed by the American-Soviet Salt II treaty. The US action has exposed the Tories to considerable opposition ridicule, since it was precisely in the area of ALCMS that the US breakthrough occurred.

Europeans review defences

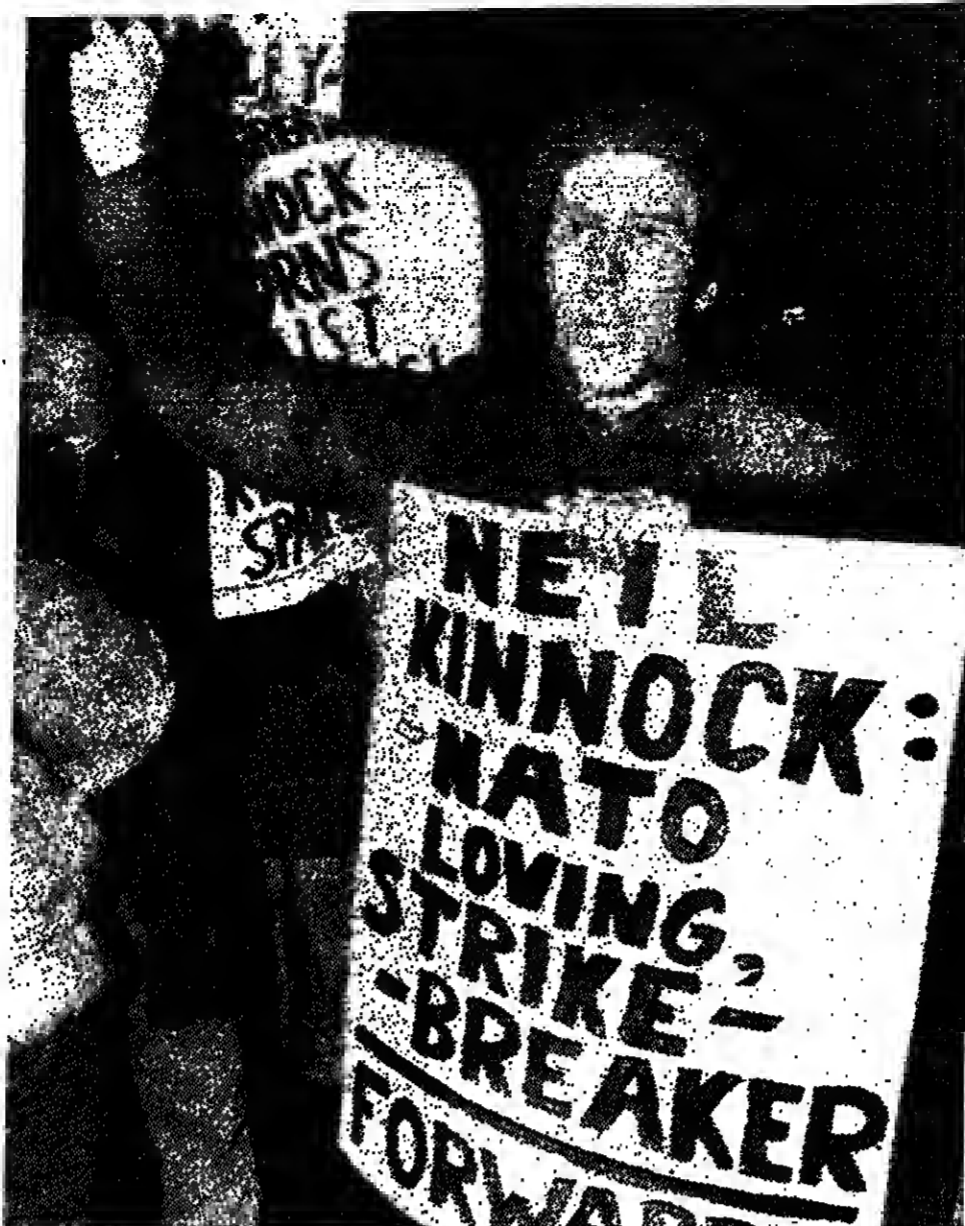
Brussels (Reuters) - European Nato defence ministers met yesterday to review conventional forces and armaments co-operation, issues that officials said had taken on added significance after the Reykjavik summit.

Ministers and deputies from 12 member states of the alliance's Eurogroup - all the European allies barring France and Iceland - gathered at Western governments show increasing concern over what they see as the Soviet bloc's superior strength in conventional forces.

Nato diplomats expected the ministers, who were due to have further informal talks last night, also to discuss the US breach last week of the Salt 2 superpower treaty limiting strategic arms, a move condemned by virtually all the allies.

The Europeans seemed certain to voice their disappointment when they meet the American Secretary of Defence, Mr Caspar Weinberger, today, though US officials regard the breach of Salt 2 as a dead issue.

Alliance limitations in conventional strength compared with that of the Warsaw Pact have suddenly started preoccupying the Europeans as they envisage a future with reduced reliance on American nuclear weapons.



Even in the US, Mr Neil Kinnock cannot escape the militants of the extreme left: British members of the Spartacist League were protesting against him at Harvard yesterday.

Churches fight sex education

From Christopher Thomas, New York

A battle against compulsory sex education in New York City's 922 schools will be launched from the pulpit on Sunday, pitching the churches into an intensely emotional encounter with City Hall.

In a city renowned for every kind of prurience, the debate until now has been peculiarly sombre, as though parents have been embarrassed to find their children's sex lives under such scrutiny.

But the debate has finally burst into a passionate row. Opponents of sex education have been further outraged to discover that, without their knowledge, the Board of Education quietly voted to permit school-based health clinics to prescribe contraceptives for a six-month period, ending next April. The vote was 5-2.

If that was not enough it also became known that the clinics have, in any case, been prescribing contraceptives for well over a year under "comprehensive health care" programmes. The idea for school-based health clinics stemmed from a 1984 initiative to provide care to teenagers who did not have access to private physicians.

There are now 12 clinics, which say that only 10 per cent of their services are sexually related. At two of the clinics contraceptives, and not just prescriptions, were dispensed. They argue that the statistics prove that teenage girls who have access to contraceptives and counselling at school clinics are less likely to get pregnant.

The Board of Education last month ordered that sex education be given from September, 1987. Besides the argument about the issue in general, there is also disagreement about the curriculum. One book, *Learning About Sex: The Contemporary Guide for Young Adults*, has already been removed because it states, in obvious error, that anal intercourse is not medically dangerous. The edition was produced in 1977, long before the Aids crisis.

South African house raids White opponents of conscription seized by police

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The South African security police have arrested at least 13 white campaigners against military conscription in raids on homes in Johannesburg and Cape Town. They are being held under the emergency regulations.

Twelve other members of the End Conscription Campaign (ECC) were briefly detained and then released after being served with orders restricting their activities. A number of other political activists were also restricted.

The ECC's national secretary, Mr David Shandler, described the police action on Tuesday night as "grossly counter-productive to finding solutions to the problems in our country".

He said that 60 of the organization's members had been detained during the state of emergency. None had yet been charged.

The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference said it could only "question yet again the motives of the South African Government in silencing voices of peace".

It fully supported "the ECC's aim to demilitarize our society". Seven of those arrested are Catholics.

Among those detained were Miss Clare Verbeek and Miss Paula Hathorn, chairmen of the ECC's Johannesburg and Cape Town branches, and Mr Steven Levy, its national treasurer. Johannesburg ECC members were arrested while attending a regular fortnightly meeting.

Other activists restricted, together with ECC campaigners, included Mr Azhar Cachalia, the national treasurer of the United Democratic Front; Mr Ashwin Shah of the Transvaal Indian Congress; and Mrs Dawn Ingles of the Black Sash, the civil rights group run by white women.

They are prohibited from campaigning for an end to conscription; for the removal of troops from black townships; for the release of detainees; for an end to the state of emergency; and for the lifting of the ban on the African National Congress.

The restriction orders also forbid participation in the ECC's yellow ribbon campaign, banned under the state of emergency from openly opposing military service, has tried to publicize its cause by encouraging sympathizers to tie ribbons to trees and lamp-posts.

The ECC was formed about three years ago and enjoys considerable support on university campuses.

The issue of military service has been sharpened by the large-scale use over the past two years of white conscripts to suppress unrest in black townships.

Official sensitivity was reflected earlier this year when the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, refused to give Parliament the number of young whites who failed to report for military duty, saying the information could be "misused".

It is estimated that there are about 7,000 draft evaders living in Europe and America. Under South African law, all white males between 18 and 25 must do two years' military service, and are liable to be called up for another 720 days of periodic camps over a period of years.

The scope for conscientious objection is limited. Under an amendment to the Defence Act earlier this year, objectors must convince a specially convened board that their attitude is dictated by their belief in God or a supreme being.

Those accepted as conscientious objectors have to perform alternative community service.

Fraga tries to explain resignation

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Señor Manuel Fraga gave an explanation to members of his right wing group in the Spanish Parliament yesterday on why he has resigned "irrevocably" from leading the Opposition before taking a seat among his backbenchers.

To emphasize his resolve taken in the wake of election defeats, Señor Fraga, aged 64, declined to answer parliamentary reporters' questions.

Señor Fraga said: "Gentlemen, I am not going to speak any more as spokesman for the party or to make general observations on policy to you." He has indicated that he wishes to stay in public life for the rest of the present Parliament, elected in June.

But while the hard political facts explain the situation and many of the contenders for Señor Fraga's place began their behind-the-scenes manoeuvring, many of the party faithful evidently still cherish the idea of persuading Señor Fraga to return.

The MPs accepted his resignation yesterday as chairman of the Popular Alliance Party which now numbers only 68, plus the 12 still faithful MPs of the right-wing Liberal Party.

Señor José Segurado, its chairman and a Madrid businessman, has taken over temporarily as head of the parliamentary group.

At the June general election Señor Fraga's right-wing coalition mustered 105 seats against the Socialists' 192. Gerardo Fernández, chief minister in Galicia, has assumed a caretaker role as Popular Alliance chairman.

Leading article, page 17

Aquino demotes minister

From David Watts, Manila

A leading left-wing member of President Aquino's Government has been dismissed, the third minister to go in the continuing series of changes.

But though Mr Aquilino Pimentel loses his position as Minister of Local Government, he will retain Cabinet rank as an adviser on national affairs.

His place is taken by Mr Jaime Ferrer, who is well known in Philippine politics for his resistance to martial law when it was introduced by President Ferdinand Marcos in 1972. Mr Ferrer was in the now defunct Parliament representing an anti-Marcos party.

The President's spokesman said that two ministers were to be replaced in yesterday's announcement.

The single change is raising speculation that either Mrs Aquino is having difficulty finding replacements for the ministers she must dismiss or is unwilling to go through with all of the changes that the military has been demanding.

Mrs Aquino said she would announce further changes later, and Mr Augusto Sanchez, the Minister of Labour, said he believed that he would be dismissed soon.

Mr Pimentel, who is from the southern island of Mindanao, said as he left the Malacanang Palace: "The pressure was too much to bear. There appears to be a call for blood. It might as well be my blood and not hers."

The calls, he said, came from Mr Juan Ponce Enrile, the former Defence Minister, who was himself dismissed nine days ago, and General Fidel Ramos, Chief of Staff of the armed forces.

Paris terror suspect threatens judges

Paris (Reuters) - One of the accused in the murder trial of alleged Action Directe urban guerrillas yesterday refused to recognize the Assize Court and threatened reprisals against the judges and jury.

Régis Schlicher, aged 29, believed by police to be a founder of the extreme-left group, declared as the trial began amid massive security precautions: "I do not recognize that this court has any right to judge me. All those sitting here will expose themselves to the rigours of proletarian justice."

He then asked the presiding judge: "I would like to know how long you are going to protect them?"

M Schlicher is on trial with two brothers for the killing of two plain-clothes policemen in Paris on May 31 1983.

The hearing was scheduled to last 10 days. It began just two weeks after Action Directe admitted the murder of Georges Besse, the Renault chief.

Justice sources said the minimum quota of 23 potential jurors among the 35 selected for each assize session had been found only just before the hearing opened. The final jury will be composed of seven men and two women.

Of the 46 witnesses called to attend the opening session, only 23 turned up.

Police marksmen and sniffer dogs were on duty around the courthouse near Notre Dame cathedral as guards with metal detectors searched public and press entering the security perimeter. Justice sources said special protection had been arranged for judges, key witnesses and jurors.

Action Directe, which began operations in 1979 and now has close links with similar groups in West Germany, Italy and Belgium. It has claimed responsibility for 45 bombings over the past three years, two murders and two assassination attempts.

The other two accused are Claude Halphen, aged 30, and his brother Nicolas, aged 23. Claude is charged with M Schlicher with murder and attempted murder, and Nicolas is accused of complicity.

When Cuomo does not sleep, neither do reporters New York governor takes on the press

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The ill-tempered Mr Mario Cuomo, whose backaches have made big news as the possible source of his celebrated outbursts against the press, has taken to blasting journalists to their faces and, just as frequently, behind their backs to their editors.

"Spelled" and "incompetent" are popular words in his tirades.

The battle between Mr Cuomo and the press is regarded by most journalists as a demonstration of the New York Governor's extraordinary sensitivity to criticism. He telephoned editors day and night, and one evening recently called a New York Times reporter at home to complain bitterly about an article.

"You set out to hurt me and you succeeded. I hope you sleep well," he said. The next morning he phoned back to ask forgiveness for "an old man with a bad back".

"They will never get another call from me," he raged. "They can call me from a burning building and say: 'You are the captain of the Fire Department', and they will have to learn to fly."

Some journalists wrote that his aggressive campaign for re-election as Governor last month was overkill. Although clearly assured of victory, reporters said he wanted victory by a historic margin.

In a meeting with reporters it was suggested to him that his campaign made him look bad. "Let's get it clear," he retorted. "It did not make me look bad. You made me look bad."

A sure way of guaranteeing a Cuomo outburst is to suggest, as many repeatedly do, that his son Michael's New York law firm might have profited indirectly through his being governor.

Mr Michael Cuomo, aged 28, is not exactly a favourite of the New York press corps. When a reporter wrote an unfavourable story about the



Governor Cuomo, fending against editors.

Cuomo administration earlier this year, Mr Michael Cuomo ensured that a rival reporter was given a scoop. "When you cut, you bleed," he explained.

Mr Michael Cuomo is the key insider in a tight circle that advises the governor on political strategy. A large number of advisers have been brought in to rebut criticism that the governor is too insular, but it is clear that none of them has really gained access to the inner circle.

Most of New York's newspapers endorsed Mr Cuomo in his re-election bid, but criticized his personality and his apparent sensitivity - to which Mr Cuomo replied that the press was too thin-skinned and could not take criticism.

In a recent speech on press freedom he said it was organizations, not individuals, that curb their abuses. "The Supreme Court will get you in the end". He threatened to reduce reporters' access to him, noting: "It's about time the press office did some work."

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FORWARD

Sudan says

سكوت من الامل

Judges confirm death sentences on Sikh killers of Mrs Gandhi

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

With the Indian capital returning yesterday to normal after the spasm of violence during the past two days, three High Court judges rejected the appeals of the three Sikhs who conspired to assassinate Mrs Indira Gandhi.

The anti-Sikh mobs were restrained, and the curfew which had been imposed in the Old City was lifted for two hours as Mr Justice Ranganatha Rao read the portion of the judgement which confirmed the death sentence to be carried out on Satwant Singh, the young police constable who emptied his Stogun into the Prime Minister on October 31 1984, and his co-conspirators.

Extreme security measures were in force in the court as the judges filed in. Metal detectors guarded the doors, and large numbers of lawyers and journalists scurried outside trying to gain entrance while the two-minute hearing went on.

The judges spoke from behind a screen of bulletproof glass, and the court room was searched thoroughly by a spe-

cial security squad of Delhi police.

The three judges' statement runs for 643 pages and begins by describing the murder of Mrs Gandhi as "perhaps the most gruesome" of the assassinations of public figures this century.

They rejected the notion that the religious feelings provided an extenuating circumstance after the Army's seizure of the Golden Temple of Amritsar ordered by Mrs Gandhi. They also rejected the defence contention that the position of the victim as Prime Minister should not be taken into consideration.

In addition, the judges recalled the days of rioting that followed Mrs Gandhi's death and insisted: "Not only did the assassins kill Mrs Gandhi but they were also responsible for triggering off riots resulting in loss of property and people."

The High Court bench began the appeal proceedings in February soon after the end of the trial.

The other two accused were Balbir Singh, a police inspector, and Kehar Singh, an uncle

of Satwant. They all still have the option of a further appeal to the country's Supreme Court.

At the end of the hearing, Mr Ranganatha also directed that the clothing that Mrs Gandhi was wearing on the day she was shot should be handed over to the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust for preservation.

Meanwhile, Mrs Gandhi's son and successor, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, discussed the present upsurge of terrorist killing in Punjab with leaders of the parliamentary opposition parties. Not unanimately, they failed to agree on what to do next, particularly since Mr Gandhi was unable to give much information about what his Government had in mind.

The Opposition leaders themselves were divided on the need for imposing presidential rule once more on the state, most parties firmly opposing the idea. Two, the Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party, and the Lok Dal which has a powerful presence in neighbouring Haryana, saw no harm in it.

Broader powers for Moi approved

From A Correspondent Nairobi

President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya has increased his executive authority significantly as a result of constitutional amendments.

The Government rushed through Parliament earlier this week. In a vote of 131 to 0, the National Assembly agreed to a Bill which Kenya's Attorney-General, Mr Justice Mathew Muli, said would "streamline" the Constitution.

In practice, the new legislation will remove certain obstacles which President Moi sees as delaying implementation of important government programmes.

One of the major changes in the Constitution is the abolition of the post of Chief Secretary, giving way to a head of the Civil Service with diminished powers. This should affect the successor to the present Chief Secretary, Mr Simeoni Nyachae, who retires in February.

The post of Chief Secretary was itself created by an amendment to the Constitution in 1982. Although Mr Nyachae is a trusted confidant of President Moi, there has been a feeling that some senior civil servants have been using the established procedure of obtaining prior approval from the Chief Secretary for all kinds of decisions as an excuse for delaying implementation of some programmes.

Observers recall that, when the Chief Secretary's post was introduced, it was used by the now disgraced Kikuyu politician, Mr Charles Njonjo, then Attorney-General, to help build up a rival power base to the presidency.

One of the most ardent supporters of the new legislation debated in the National Assembly this week was Mr Peter Okondo, the Labour Minister in Mr Moi's Cabinet. Speaking in Parliament in 1983, a year after the post of Chief Secretary had been established, he accused Mr Njonjo of "sneaking in" his ally, Mr Jeremiah Kiereini, into this key post, while Mr Njonjo was not realizing the implications of what they were doing.

Pointing out that, as the amendment creating the post had been tagged on to a Bill to create Kenya as a *de jure* one-party state, Mr Okondo said that for any MP to have queried the new post would have been seen as opposing the one-party state "due to the political climate at that time".

Besides the abolition of the Chief Secretary's post, the new legislation will enable President Moi to remove from office an attorney-general or an auditor-general like any other civil servant, as they no longer have their security of tenure guaranteed.

Refusing to be too sensible

Peter Ormrod, director of *Eat The Peach* which opens in London this week, broke all the rules for cinematic success. Interview by Simon Banner



Grabbing attention: Peter Ormrod in front of the rickety biplane which took him to Cannes

"I think I broke the record for a fight to Cannes," explains Peter Ormrod, film director, standing beside the rickety-looking biplane which helped him do it. "Not for the fastest journey, because it took five days." Those who travelled more conventionally and more speedily, however, were denied not only the pleasure of flying a part of the way in formation with a flock of flamingoes (bound for the Camargue rather than the film festival), but, once in Cannes itself, the promotional possibilities offered by a light aircraft as well.

Flying low over the beach each day in a biplane emblazoned with the title of his new movie, *Eat The Peach*, was obviously not a bad way of grabbing some attention, and the Irish-made movie premiered to a packed house, while more than 100 people had to be turned away.

We should not, however, expect any aerial stunts as a prelude to the release of *Eat The Peach*, which opens at the Plaza this week. For one thing, the plane is currently grounded following an unfortunate and unexplained landing in a field of garlic, and anyway, the director says, "I really believe that whatever the hype, you can't fill a cinema unless a film is good."

They're stuck without cash, or much else for that matter, but long for some sort of opportunity to escape the limitations of their lives, and that's what the film is about: having the courage to grasp opportunities.

Like all the most improbable stories, the one at the centre of *Eat The Peach* is true, and dates, as the director explains, from the days when he first arrived in Ireland from England and went to work as a producer-director for RTE. "I was attached to a magazine programme," he recalls, "and I used to get sent all over the place digging out stories. One assignment was to go to the Midlands of Ireland, where, to be honest, there wasn't a lot happening."

"But then I went out driving one morning, and in the most unlikely setting I came across this huge, 60 foot high barrel, which looked like a gasometer and turned out to be a home-made wall of death. The man who had built it had even given up his job and sold land to fund the project which had fermented in his imagination ever since he had seen that Elvis Presley movie with the wall of death, *Roustabout*, on the television. His neighbours thought he was mad, of course."

Ormrod returned with a film crew and made a short piece about it for Irish tele-

vision. But it was out until two or three years later, just after he had finished working on *In A Free State*, a highly acclaimed RTE and Channel 4 co-production about German spies in Ireland, that Ormrod's thoughts turned to the incident again.

"I went to a fairground and saw a wall of death," he remembers, "and suddenly it occurred to me that there was a story there which would make a great movie about enterprise and initiative and a desperate search for opportunity."

Ironically, this would also seem to describe the story of Ormrod's own struggle to bring *Eat The Peach* to the screen. Initially the idea was turned down by every prospective backer including Channel 4 and the Irish Film Board. "I began to feel that one would give me moony," Ormrod says, "but I believed there really was a good film there, so I decided to try a different tack."

Meeting with John Kelleher, an ex-boss of Ormrod's at RTE, led to Kelleher becoming producer of the projected movie, and a rather spectacular collocation of the problem of its financing a share issue on the Irish stock market. Both large and small-scale investors put up a total

of £1 million in return for shares in Strongbow, *Eat The Peach's* production company, while Channel 4 also decided to change its mind and step in with another half million or so, the film went into production.

"There's a lesson in that," says Peter Ormrod. "Of course it's unusual to have a stock issue to raise money for making a film, but then film making is an unusual business. You might as well try anything. Who knows what will work?" The solution certainly worked not only for Ormrod, who got to make his film, but for investors in Strougbow as well.

Already *Eat The Peach* has surpassed all previous records for a home-grown production at the Irish box-office, and in the process has outperformed *The Purple Rose of Cairo* and *A Chorus Line* as well.

"I think people in Britain will enjoy the film very much," says Ormrod, "because even though any film has to be made essentially with its home market in mind, I'd say that with *Eat The Peach* we've also managed to describe an honest human situation which has universal characteristics. Apparently, he adds with a smile, "it's already going down well in Finland, of all places, so we should be okay over here, shouldn't we?"

Bhopal's day brings big strike

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

A general strike called by the Communist Party of India marked the second anniversary of the Bhopal gas disaster which killed more than 2,350 people in the world's worst industrial accident.

Shops and markets were closed and most public vehicles were off the road as a series of processions organized by competing and quarrelling volunteer bodies wound towards the Union Carbide pesticide plant. It was from there, two years ago, that a deadly cloud of methylisocyanate gas spread over the town.

A torchlight procession began the anniversary late at night, and early yesterday morning a cycle contingent led by Mr David Bergman, a British volunteer formerly arrested and charged with spying, arrived from Delhi.

Other processions carried effigies of Mr Warren Anderson, chairman of Union Carbide, and garlanded them with necklaces of sandals before ritually burning them.

About 150 police guarded the plant and regulated the processions with specially built barriers.



Couple too fat to adopt

Sydney - Michael and Sue Murnane, above, claim they have been banned from adopting a baby because they are too fat. (Reuters reports)

The Murnanes said the Government had told them that they should each shed at least 55 lb before adopting a child.

But a Government spokesman said that the Murnanes wanted to adopt a baby from Sri Lanka or South Korea where strict laws applied.

"As far as I know it's the first time ever a couple has been refused permission to adopt because they were overweight but the provision has always been there," he said.

Mrs Murnane, aged 39, a nursing assistant, weighs 202 lb, while her husband, 29, a boiler-maker, weighs 198 lb. The couple said they were judged to be almost 30 per cent overweight, but otherwise were in perfect health.

President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya has increased his executive authority significantly as a result of constitutional amendments.

The Government rushed through Parliament earlier this week. In a vote of 131 to 0, the National Assembly agreed to a Bill which Kenya's Attorney-General, Mr Justice Mathew Muli, said would "streamline" the Constitution.

In practice, the new legislation will remove certain obstacles which President Moi sees as delaying implementation of important government programmes.

One of the major changes in the Constitution is the abolition of the post of Chief Secretary, giving way to a head of the Civil Service with diminished powers. This should affect the successor to the present Chief Secretary, Mr Simeoni Nyachae, who retires in February.

The post of Chief Secretary was itself created by an amendment to the Constitution in 1982. Although Mr Nyachae is a trusted confidant of President Moi, there has been a feeling that some senior civil servants have been using the established procedure of obtaining prior approval from the Chief Secretary for all kinds of decisions as an excuse for delaying implementation of some programmes.

Observers recall that, when the Chief Secretary's post was introduced, it was used by the now disgraced Kikuyu politician, Mr Charles Njonjo, then Attorney-General, to help build up a rival power base to the presidency.

One of the most ardent supporters of the new legislation debated in the National Assembly this week was Mr Peter Okondo, the Labour Minister in Mr Moi's Cabinet. Speaking in Parliament in 1983, a year after the post of Chief Secretary had been established, he accused Mr Njonjo of "sneaking in" his ally, Mr Jeremiah Kiereini, into this key post, while Mr Njonjo was not realizing the implications of what they were doing.

Pointing out that, as the amendment creating the post had been tagged on to a Bill to create Kenya as a *de jure* one-party state, Mr Okondo said that for any MP to have queried the new post would have been seen as opposing the one-party state "due to the political climate at that time".

Besides the abolition of the Chief Secretary's post, the new legislation will enable President Moi to remove from office an attorney-general or an auditor-general like any other civil servant, as they no longer have their security of tenure guaranteed.

They're stuck without cash, or much else for that matter, but long for some sort of opportunity to escape the limitations of their lives, and that's what the film is about: having the courage to grasp opportunities.

Like all the most improbable stories, the one at the centre of *Eat The Peach* is true, and dates, as the director explains, from the days when he first arrived in Ireland from England and went to work as a producer-director for RTE. "I was attached to a magazine programme," he recalls, "and I used to get sent all over the place digging out stories. One assignment was to go to the Midlands of Ireland, where, to be honest, there wasn't a lot happening."

"But then I went out driving one morning, and in the most unlikely setting I came across this huge, 60 foot high barrel, which looked like a gasometer and turned out to be a home-made wall of death. The man who had built it had even given up his job and sold land to fund the project which had fermented in his imagination ever since he had seen that Elvis Presley movie with the wall of death, *Roustabout*, on the television. His neighbours thought he was mad, of course."

Ormrod returned with a film crew and made a short piece about it for Irish tele-

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ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL 6.55-7.55 (6.55-7.55) **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL ALBERT HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL OPERA HOUSE** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL ALBERT HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30)

EXHIBITIONS

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 10.00-11.00 (10.00-11.00) **ROYAL ALBERT HALL** 10.00-11.00 (10.00-11.00) **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL** 10.00-11.00 (10.00-11.00)

OPERA & BALLET

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL ALBERT HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30)

THEATRES

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL ALBERT HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30)

ART GALLERIES

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL ALBERT HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30)

CINEMAS

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL ALBERT HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30) **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL** 7.30-9.30 (7.30-9.30)

From PAI DECS

THE ARTS 2

High preys

Channel 4 could easily afford to dissolve its links with the independent companies and go it alone. Or - as you were! - it could not possibly do any such thing.

Prescoted by Professor Kenneth Minogue - a man whose close-set eyes balloon with despair at the mention of Herbert Morrison - this enology to the entrepreneurial spirit smacked a mouthful of nails into the coffin of state ownership.

TELEVISION

cerns was held up for admiration; Hong Kong's low taxation was fulsomely lauded and Italy's low taxation routinely anathematised.

What made it of interest was the news that the series is funded by a right-wing organization - a circumstance which would surely have been unthinkable when the channel first opened to "pluralistic" fanfares.

Four years ago, it was promised that Channel 4 would not simply be "ITV2". With so many ITV repeats, however, the channel often does resemble a sort of foundlings' home for recycled material.

One of the repeats, at least, was worthwhile: Tony Palmer's Prix Italia-winning memorial to Benjamin Britten, *A Time There Was*.

In general, however, Channel 4 needs to pull up its pluralistic socks.

Martin Cropper



Change partners and dance: Beauty (Maria Almeida) and the ill-fated Beast (Anthony Dowell) before his transformation

Jinx takes the title role

DANCE

Beauty and the Beast Covent Garden

If, as some believe, there is a jinx on Covent Garden's new productions lately, it was working overtime last night at the premiere of *Beauty and the Beast*.

Anthony Dowell, playing the second of the title roles, suffered an injury only a few minutes into the ballet. He struggled on for a time but collapsed and the curtains had to be lowered.

There followed an unscheduled 25-minute intermission while Jonathan Cope put on costume and heavy make-up to take over and complete the performance. Sympathy and admiration there must be, not only for those two men but for the entire cast who refused to allow this to disrupt the whole-hearted way they put the work over.

On the other hand, the end

product was such as to undermine faith in the old belief that the show must go on.

The chief objection must be to the soundtrack by Vangelis, performed on tape. I hope that Sir Claus Moser and Sir John Tooley, as they listened to this, literally synthetic music regurgitated by the loudspeakers, had the grace to feel ashamed that what is supposed to be our leading music theatre should find time and money for such trash.

The less solemn parts of it repeat the amplified music box effects of the same, composer's *Frankenstein*, but more offensively because that did not ask to be taken seriously.

The empty roarings meant for the beast's anguish are full of sound and fury, and we know what that signifies. Wayne Eagling's production meanders self-indulgently along for a full hour. A little more than halfway through there is a passage for four men, which, without actually having any more real choreographic content than the sequences dancers might do at the end of a good class, does

been fit, to make a brief taken appearance.

As with *Frankenstein*, Eagling has the stage effects working almost harder than the dancers and with more result.

Platforms go up and down, candles are repeatedly lit and extinguished, a revolving ball of mirrors (upheld by a second Moon in a swing) scatters light. He is not good on detail: one scene contains several black-outs to denote passing time, but the hands of the clock stay resolutely at seven although the pendulum ticks away.

For all his flamboyant theatricality, Eagling hardly bothers with the story, offering just illustrated scenes from the plot.

Luckily the illustrations are made handsome by the enlarged picture-book designs of Jan Pienkowski, helping to bide the banality and paucity of the dance arrangements. The transformations work smoothly, and the costumes, especially the Beast's hairy red and black one, are colourfully effective.

John Percival

Sculpted classicism

CONCERT

RPO/Masur Festival Hall

As the elder statesmen among the present Germano conductors approach retirement, there are few musicians more obviously poised for inheritance than Kurt Masur, and none whose style of music-making is more solidly central to the German tradition.

His way with the classics is unassuming, almost to a fault. Broad lyricism and a warm blend of orchestral timbres are the hallmarks of his Beethoven. The long melodic phrases being deftly sculpted in the air, not with a baton, but with the open palm of the hand - one possible reason for the intermittent lack of this composer's rhythmic bite.

In the violin concerto Masur was paired with Kyung-Wha Chung: an imposing conductor, massive but gentle in build, pitted against a diminutive and fiery soloist.

Even when there was clear agreement over tempo, these two artists have a fundamentally different approach to the music, with the soloist injecting a far higher degree of tension.

After a surprisingly uncertain opening Kyung-Wha Chung soon found her usual lithe energy. To the finale she added extra attack, poised almost like a cat ready to pounce on each next entry.

Indeed, the spring in the rhythm that she brought to the finale was not matched in the ballet that followed. But this performance of excerpts from Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* did have real strength, both in Masur's appreciation of the music's substance and the fine response that he obtained from the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. All departments of the orchestra sounded on good form.

The nine movements presented here gave us a different selection of Shakespeare's characters and events than the usual suites. In the circumstances it was probably just as well that Mercutio did not put in an appearance.

Richard Fairman

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Intricate family lives

THEATRE

Brighton Beach Memoirs Aldwych

Neil Simon may not be America's Chekhov, but with this piece as with *The Cherry Orchard*, it is a great pleasure to drop in again to see how the family have been getting on.

As at its Lyttelton opening in February it is Simoo's craftsmanship that first books your attention. Here are seven characters, all with their own intimate stories to tell, in a house where everybody is free to barge in to everybody else's room. As Simoo tactically there might be no technical difficulty at all. His alter ego, the 15-year-old Eugene, simply addresses the house in the name of a would-be writer airing his grievances to a sympathetic prosperity. For the others, who confide mainly in duologues, Simon has to clear the stage: but throughout the piece there is not a single unmovable exit or flash-back speech.

Once the separate lines of action have been established they converge at the dinner table, with everyone trying to dump their problems in the lap of the over-worked father. But neither here, nor later in the piece where family comedy expands into ever-widening social circles, is there any sense that events are being



Ties that bind: Susan Engel as the mother with Harry Towb

manipulated. From first to last it is the characters who lead, develop, and earn ever-increasing affection.

The balance of Michael Rudman's production has been materially altered by the new casting of Susan Engel and Dorothy Tutin in the roles of Kate (the mother) and her dependent widowed sister Blanche. At the Lyttelton these had hard-surface performances: Kate as an exhausted bone-builder who could hardly bring herself to utter a kind word; Blanche as a poor relation withdrawn into taciturn dignity.

With Miss Engel, Kate loses her shrewishness and irritability with the result that she leaves Eugene with nothing much to complain about. However, anyone casting Miss Engel is letting himself in for emotional generosity, and in her performance Kate emerges as the force that has held the

family together. She is out good at nagging, but her anger on larger issues is tremendous. Miss Tutin's Blanche, likewise, loses her hard edge and goes blind on the brink of middle-age. In her, you see frustrated rage rising up in a vulnerable character who has no means to express it. Their partnership, and in particular the bitter last act, rings with painful truth; and this time they look like sisters.

Steven Mackintosh, Robert Glenister, Harry Towb and the rest of Rudman's company remain unaltered and on top form; and as at the Lyttelton, Carl Tom's two-storey set of the crowded Jerome residence comes to life as an eighth member of the family.

Irving Wardle

OPERA

La Bohème Kingston Parish Church

La Bohème is, in all the obvious ways, the shoestring opera. English Touring Opera are turning Puccini's *verismo* to *verisimo* between now and February, the regions have a chance to experience what life is like on the very barest of boards.

Marie Jeanne Lecca and Maria Djurkovic have designed a tiny, multi-purpose rooftop: smoking chimneys, bricks, tiles, pails, chairs, and an improvised bar jostle with the rough-and-tumble student life which is such a palpable part of Graham Vick's hard-working production.

We miss the sense of changing seasons, we miss, of course, the full complement of orchestral heart-strings. But there are enormous gains. Jonathan Dove's chamber orchestra, superbly played by the company's orchestra under their founder, Simon Halsey, bares every flicker of pulse in Puccini's placing and pacing.

Even the disturbingly unstable top register of John Oakman's Rodolfo does, perversely, fit the wreck of a man he so convincingly portrays. Patricia O'Neill's Mimì thrives on the limited space: she sings and acts her heart out, as indeed do Elizabeth Collier's Musetta and Patrick Wheatley's stalwart Marcello.

Hilary Finch

Advertisement for the film 'Kangaroo'. It features a black and white photograph of Colin Friels and Judy Davis. Text includes: 'D.H. LAWRENCE'S PASSIONATE STORY OF VIOLENCE, POWER AND PREJUDICE!', 'A FLAUNTS BEST ACTRESS JUDY DAVIS', 'COLIN FRIELS JUDY DAVIS KANGAROO', 'ROSS DIMSEY PRESENTS A TIM BURSTALL FILM COLIN FRIELS AND JUDY DAVIS IN KANGAROO', 'STARRING JOHN WALTON JULIE HILL PETER HENRI PETER CUMMINGS AND HUGH KEAYS-BYRNE AS MANGAROO', 'SCREENPLAY BY EVALI LONES ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL BY D.H. LAWRENCE PRODUCTION DESIGNER TRACY WATT COSTUMES TERRY RYAN MUSIC NATHAN WANS DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DAN BURSTALL', 'PRODUCER ROSS DIMSEY DIRECTOR OF ARTS TIM BURSTALL', 'DOLBY STEREO IN SELECTED THEATRES', 'From FRI DEC 5', 'CANNON HAYMARKET Tel: 839 1527', 'ODEON KENSINGTON Tel: 602 6644'.

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Reagan's honest broker sweeps in

THE TIMES PROFILE

FRANK CHARLES CARLUCCI III

Small, neat, bespectacled and coolly efficient, Frank Charles Carlucci III is President Reagan's fifth National Security Adviser in six years. In itself that says something about the difficulty of the job, whose four previous holders — Richard V. Allen, Judge William Clark, Robert McFarlane and Admiral John Poindexter — have all left under a cloud.

He takes office not only at the low point of the Reagan Administration, as the President and his advisers struggle to contain the surging Iran crisis, but also when the National Security Council itself is under intensive scrutiny. It is a daunting challenge. Few doubt, however, that Carlucci will rise to it.

A former deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, a career diplomat who played a vital role in preventing a White House aide and a deputy secretary of defence, he has that almost unique blend of experience to enable him to hold the ring in the chronic squabbles between the various cabinet departments, using his knowledge of each to mould a unified policy which can be put to the President. All agree that the NSC is at the eye of the Iran storm. If Reagan is to weather it, he must be kept aloft by the unsinkable reliability of his new National Security Adviser.

Senior officials welcomed his appointment, saying he was just what they needed. "He's going to be an honest broker, who will give the NSC a greater direction and a stronger role," one said.

The strengths that tipped the balance in his favour — against other front-runners such as David Abshire, retiring US ambassador to Nato, and William Hyland, editor of the influential *Foreign*

Affairs journal — are his political impartiality and corresponding ability to work as a senior civil servant in the British mould.

This comes from his long career to government and in the diplomatic service, mostly in Africa, and his experience of having worked for both the Republicans and the Democrats, in the Nixon, Ford, Carter and Reagan administrations. Like most senior figures in American government, he has also done a spell in business — as chairman of the recently dissolved Sears World Trade, a failed attempt by Sears Roebuck to boost foreign sales, and as head of his own consulting firm, International Planning Analysis Centre.

Carlucci, a graduate of Princeton University, saw war service in Korea, where he was a naval gunnery officer. He then joined the Foreign Service, and while serving in Africa in 1960 was the victim of a stabbing in the Congo during the crisis there, when he rescued a carload of Americans from a mob. He also served in Zanzibar and as political officer of the US embassy in Brazil.

His career in domestic government began in 1971 when he became director of the Office of Economic Opportunity under President Nixon. The following year he became deputy director of the White House Office of Management and Budget, then ran by Casper Weinberger. A close bond was forged between the two men that led to his serving again under Weinberger in the Pentagon, and to the Defence Secretary's strong backing for him as National Security Adviser.

One of his more visible posts was in 1974, when President Ford appointed him Ambassador to Portugal. It was a difficult job, demanding a delicate balance of tact, toughness and nerve. Por-



The President's National Security Advisers tend not to last long: will new-broom Carlucci buck the trend?

tugal was engulfed in the turmoil following the revolution that got rid of Castro and the Salazar legacy. But in the euphoria, the country drifted steadily leftwards, with radical military officers outbidding each other to propose ever more drastic reforms. The civilian government of Mario Soares appeared to lose control of events, and by 1975 there seemed a real threat that the communists, organized and powerful, would make a bid for power.

The general feeling was strongly anti-American and anti-Nato, and Carlucci was denounced by many Portuguese as the personification of American interference. But in fact he worked hard behind the scenes to prevent Dr Henry

Kissinger, then Secretary of State, from adopting an ever harsher policy towards Lisbon. Kissinger had written the country off and wanted to halt US aid. Carlucci, working closely with Helmut Schmidt, then Chancellor of West Germany and a close ally of Soares, helped arrange desperately needed financing for Portugal's Social Democratic Party, which finally prevailed against the communists.

The Democrats also turned to Carlucci to get them out of a difficult situation. Morale at the CIA was low. The agency had repeatedly been pilloried in Congress for past excesses and for illegal covert operations. Presi-

dent Carter was determined to clean things up, and had appointed Admiral Stansfield Turner to head the sprawling organization. In 1978 Carlucci was chosen as his deputy. "Carlucci was very astute in dealing with Congress," Admiral Turner recalls. It was a critical role, as the CIA tried to repair the battered relations with Capitol Hill and re-establish the trust and secrecy necessary both for the proper oversight of the CIA's activities and for the agency to function effectively.

Mollification will again be a key component of Carlucci's new role, as the Administration fights to prevent Congress, in its indignation at the recent capers of the

BIOGRAPHY

1930: Born, Scranton, Pennsylvania. Educated Princeton University and Harvard Graduate school of Business. War service in Korea.
1954: Married Jean Anthony (divorced 1974). One son, two daughters.
1955: Joined Jantzen Company, Portland, Oregon.
1958: Foreign Service Officer, Department of State.
1957: Vice-consul, Johannesburg. Later service in Kinshasa, Zanzibar.

Rio de Janeiro.
1969: Joined Office of Economic Opportunity.
1971: Office of Management and Budget.
1973: Under-Secretary, Dept of Health, Education and Welfare.
1974: Ambassador to Portugal. Married to Marcia Myers.
1977: Deputy director, CIA.
1981: Deputy Secretary of Defence.
1982: Joined Sears World Trade.
1988: National Security Adviser.

NSC, so circumscribing the Council's role that it would no longer be a useful tool of government for the President.

After Reagan was elected in 1980, he appointed Weinberger to the Pentagon. Weinberger made it a condition of his own job that Carlucci become his deputy. Carlucci was strongly opposed by the conservatives and those raring to usher in the Reaganite right-wing revolution, who saw him as a pragmatist, too closely associated with previous governments. But he got the job, and stayed a year until he left in 1982 to join Sears World Trade.

Born in Pennsylvania, twice married, with three children, Carlucci is a man who has not sought the limelight. He is a quiet, but effective operator — the consummate No 2, as one commentator put it this week. That might have been a handicap in the old NSC, which was expected to play a large part in coordinating and formulating foreign policy, with the Security Adviser himself mediating and forcing consensus with the strength of his own personality. But things have changed.

Reagan has made it clear that in the wake of the Iran fiasco, the NSC is to go back to being purely an advisory and coordinating body. It has been forbidden to carry out any actual operations while the Tower commission looks at its role in foreign and security policy. The NSC does not now need a man with big political

ambitions of his own. It needs someone willing to stand back, take a cool look at what he is running, and implement the organizational changes.

"He has some standing in the White House. He's not going to be treated as a clerk, and I'm sure he will have a greater input in the day-to-day policy than his predecessor," an official said.

Certainly Carlucci is better armed politically than Vice-Admiral Poindexter, whom he would never be caught, like Poindexter, writing a damaging memorandum advocating a campaign of "disinformatio". He knows the need to cultivate the links to Congress, and has enough contacts in a variety of government agencies still to know how to cut through the bureaucracy that so often overwhelms American government.

His weakness, it appears, is a lack of business acumen. When he was appointed to Sears World Trade it was already failing. He tried to focus the company on consumer goods, but losses persisted and it closed with considerable debts. Given the embarrassing ability of Colonel Oliver North, and perhaps others at the NSC to turn political arms deals into business ventures that kept the Coonras in funds, this handicap might now seem a positive advantage for Carlucci.

Michael Binyon

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1123

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

French students will be demonstrating *en masse* today, but Diana Geddes says a sense of *déjà vu* may mislead

The son also marches ...

Some are already talking of one million demonstrators in the streets of Paris today. Others, more cautious, speak of at least 500,000. At all events, the protest against the government's Bill to reform the universities is almost certain to be the biggest student demonstration since the great upheavals of May 1968.

But this is a new breed of student protester. Dubbed the "moral generation", they are political and pragmatic, and they want nothing to do with the long hair and nihilism of an age before they were born. Violence is out, Marx is dead. Political fellow travellers — trade unions, communists — will join the march today but are being kept to the back, out of the limelight.

The sharp shift by today's youth away from the extreme left positions of their predecessors is clear from their



Power without flowers: pragmatism in the class of '86 has replaced the idealism of the class of '68, but will the line hold?

voting patterns in the last general election in March: 38 per cent of the 18 to 25-year-olds voted for the conservative RPR-UDF coalition, 40 per cent for the socialists, 9 per cent for the extreme right National Front, and only 6 per cent for the Communist party. However, the students are no less determined than those of 1968. They believe the Bill will lead to university entrance by selection, though the government denies this. Any-one with the *baccalauréat* — roughly equivalent to a British A level — has in theory a guaranteed right to a university place and the government wants to increase the proportion of students obtaining the "bac" from 40 per cent to 80 per cent, mainly based on figures showing that whereas 40 per cent of school leavers are still out of work nine months after leaving, the

proportion of jobless graduates is only 14 per cent. The government denies the change will mean selection, saying the entrance methodology will be left to individual universities. But already the government, worried by the strength of the protest — most universities have been on strike for a week — has handed the students a minor, but significant, victory by agreeing to withdraw the Bill temporarily, sending it back to committee for "clarification" and amendment following the first mass demonstrations all over France a week ago. The students are not pla-

ated. "If there's a big enough turn-out on Thursday, we can win", one student leader said. "The government is seeking to calm us, but our discontent runs much deeper than that. The democracy of the universities is at stake. The fact that the government has already begun to pull back means we can win a complete victory." M Jacques Chirac, the prime minister, went on television on Sunday to bemoan "misunderstandings" surrounding his Bill, and to protest that the government had no intention of introducing selection or of creating a new hierarchy of universities by allowing them to grant their own degrees and to charge differential registration fees. His reassurances flopped. "He takes us for fools", Isabelle Thomas, one of the student leaders, said. "Does he think the students don't

know how to read and study his Bill? We are not going on strike for the sake of it; we want our degrees. But we want the withdrawal of the Bill." A split is opening up, however, between hardliners who want a continuation of the strike, with occupation of buildings where possible, until the Bill has been totally abandoned, and moderates who want to find a compromise and get back to their studies.

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A terrorist by the tail



Disarmed to the teeth: the catch-all order goes out to save all fish from this fish

Twenty-three years ago on a misty Fenland morning, 97 fish, each approximately 10 inches long, were introduced to the peaceful, mirror-calm waters of Norfolk's Great Ouse Relief Channel, a deep man-made trench slicing the table-flat countryside like a submerged railway cutting.

The infant fish were zander and the water bailiffs who introduced them had unknowingly lit the fuse of an ecological time bomb now exploding all over Britain. The sharp-toothed, fat-bellied descendants of those first fish are threatening to colonize river systems all over Britain, so much so that the Anglian water authority has reversed the normal call and told anglers: catch all you can.

The zander, farmed commercially on the Continent and regarded as delicious to eat, is a blood-thirsty killer both for food and pleasure. feeding on shoals of inoffensive roach and bream and several other species. And there is no telling what could happen if the zander got into salmon fisheries, which are worth millions of pounds. Within five years of the zander's introduction to the Great Ouse Relief Channel, fish of 10lb and more were being caught. In 1977, a monster of 17lb 12oz was caught there. Anglers began to complain of declining roach and bream stocks. Since then zanders have been caught elsewhere — in the Thames, the Suffolk Stour, the Severn and the Warwickshire Avon. Now there are reports of their appearance in the River Nene, Northamptonshire, and the River Glen in Lincolnshire. Their spread has not been entirely natural; a few unscrupulous anglers have illegally transferred them to new waters.

Mr Peter Cotton, general manager of the Water Authority's Oundle Division says: "We suspect they were introduced illegally by persons unaware of the damage this voracious predator can cause. This is an extremely dangerous thing to do; it can badly upset the fine balance between predators and prey." Zander originally came to England from Bothamper Lake in Schleswig-Holstein and were used to stock enclosed waters at Woburn and elsewhere. But when the fish were introduced to the Relief Channel they were given the keys to a vast new kingdom — a territory with no frontiers.

Dainty dish though it may be, the zander, it seems, is a taste which Britain's waterways could have well done without.

Alan Bennett

Advertisement for 'An Illustrated History' book, featuring a cover image and promotional text about colorful illustrations and maps.



Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: 'UNIVERSITY'.

ALSO

BOOKS

Change and decay in all around

Peter Ackroyd reviews the Prince of modern novelists: do you resist change or come to terms with it?

THE LEOPARD With a Memory and two Stories By Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa Translated by Archibald Colquhoun Collins Harvill, £10.95

In the 1950s, Lampedusa is filled with such an intense realization of the past that he is able effortlessly to recreate it one can imagine him walking through the streets of Palermo, literally seeing everything as it was a hundred years before. That is how historical novelists become great.

His excellent translator, Archibald Colquhoun, suggests that the novel is also "impregnated with the transmuted spiritual yearning of a particular kind of artist, who is also a non-practising Catholic; and indeed in its combination of the mystical and the humorous, in its displaced religious imagery, it bears all the marks of a lapsed Catholic who tries to create a fictional world that will rival the religious one he has abandoned.

So if this is a novel about the processes of social change, it is also one about the nature of fatality; if it is an account of the Sicilian character and the recesses of that island's history, it is also an impassioned disquisition on the soul of one man.

Don Fabrizio is an amateur astronomer and, at times of great anxiety, he goes back to his telescope and discerns the "timeless harmony" of the constellations. This is an historical novel; but one that takes time itself as its subject.

And so the reader receives the very strong impression that Lampedusa has put into this book everything he ever thought, or ever wanted to say.

but it was also the single most important source for this book. He created poetry out of his loss, and in The Leopard the old house rises once more - rebuilt, as it were, in the imagination. But from where does that imagination spring? In the short memoir that accompanies this novel, he describes his boyhood exploration of the great palaces that his family possessed, and in the process it becomes clear that he is haunted by these houses.

It is as if they took on, by some act of morphological resonance, the very shape of his own destiny (much the greater pity, then, that the publishers did not choose to include the photographs of those buildings which appeared in their earlier edition of Raccon). And before anyone begins to talk about the proprietorial nostalgia that afflicts decaying aristocrats, it ought to be pointed out that in Lampedusa's account there is as much loneliness as there is grandeur; he provides a rich catalogue of aesthetic objects; but also, and more powerfully, he evokes a succession of shattered, empty, and forgotten rooms. And so it is that the 19th Century is seen to anticipate the condition of the 20th.

This identification with his subject also implies an identification with the entire period, of course, and one of the strengths of this book is the suspicion that it could have been written in the 1880s rather than in



COLE '86

To write a first novel at the end of your life looks like an inspiration; but to achieve worldwide fame as a result looks more like inadvertence, particularly when the author in question is Duke of Palma and Prince of Lampedusa. When it was first published in 1958, The Leopard disgusted modernists and left-wing writers alike (they are not always the same thing, especially in Italy), but it came as a revelation to everyone else: here was a Sicilian Prince mocking the achievements of the Risorgimento, attacking the liberals and the petit-bourgeoisie, implicitly supporting the Bourbon regime, and somehow at the same time writing a masterpiece. It is as if, in this country, an elderly Duke had written a novel condemning the Reform Acts of the last century, given the generally brutish state of the British aristocracy, this is of course improbable. But the analogy suggests the fuss that this particular novel provoked.

The central character is a certain Don Fabrizio, a 19th-Century Prince not a million miles removed from one of Lampedusa's own ancestors. The novel opens in May 1860, just before Garibaldi's landing in Sicily, as Don Fabrizio waits with cynical patience for the destruction of the old order that he represents. By the end of the book, the narrative has moved forward to 1910: Don Fabrizio is dead, his old houses are essentially "relics", nothing more, but the condition of Sicily is no better and no more enlightened under bourgeois rule. In one of the many passages which have ensured this book's fame, a bureaucrat looks from his coach at the scarred and mournful visage of that island: "Under the ashen light, the landscape lurched to and fro, irredeemable." The poetry of Lampedusa's novel flows into the Sicilian countryside, but it is the poetry of exequy and not of celebration.

His own Palace at Palermo was destroyed by Allied bombing in 1943, and this act of defilement haunted him for the rest of his life;

Light Yorkshire Puddings

FICTION Gillian Greenwood UNCLE MORT'S NORTH COUNTRY By Peter Tinniswood Pavilion, £7.95 THE WAY-PAVER By Anne Devlin Faber, £8.95 THE PIER By Rayner Heppenstall Allison & Busby

It's a case of dog-eat-dog in the books here under review. Class, religion, geography, and gender negate the season of goodwill, and provide a battleground on which conflicts of varying degrees of seriousness are played out.

The lightest touch is that of Peter Tinniswood, whose Uncle Mort's North Country is the return to the popular Brandon family of his earlier novels. The book is made up of a series of comic dialogues between the remarkable Uncle Mort and his foil, the phlegmatic Carter Brandon, during the latter's week off work. The traditional northern day-trip takes them to the seaside, of course; but also on a visit to Arthur Scargill's gay twin brother, to the W. Tidy Museum of Living Northern Life, to several pubs, and a funeral.

Centre stage is the aged Uncle Mort, with an endless supply of anecdotes and outrageous one-liners, a sort of intelligent Northern Alf Garnett, whose prejudice extends to everyone save himself. It is on occasion reserved purely for the South of England, however: "The sun is bloody thing," said Uncle Mort... It had no time for us here in the North, hadn't the

story from a certain objectivity (like that of a character in "Passages"). The girl had a disconcerting habit of standing back and analysing her statements... thereby dismissing her own assumptions towards a more intuitive knowledge of the futility of hoping for an answer. A young woman lures a victim to his death on the Falls Road; another recalls the unexplained disappearance of her young brother 20 years before, the memory triggered

by the smell of oranges, yet another, a Catholic, returns to Belfast to live with her Protestant boyfriend, only to be hounded out. In each case the past creates the future. Not only in an obvious historical sense, but through some fateful subconscious force by which the characters unwittingly manoeuvre themselves. Mr Devlin writes in a simply lyrical style, sometimes so simple that a touch of naivety depends on her prose. Her great strength is dialogue and character, which are seen to best effect in "Naming the Names", where a strong sense of place allows a bustling street life to contrast well with the tortured, lonely stance of its dangerous narrator.

The Pier was Rayner Heppenstall's last book. He died in 1981 and has been described by C.P. Snow as "The master eccentric of English letters". It is interesting to note that the C.P. Snow's last novel was a splenic murder story, in which he indulged an old man's irritation at modern life rather unsuccessfully. By the side of The Pier, however,

C.P. Snow's A Coat of Varnish is quite benign.

An elderly author, Harold Atha, becomes so irritated by his squalid, modern, working-class neighbours that he at first plans a literary revenge on them, and then acts out his plot to massacre almost the entire family. There are moments in the book when the frustration of the old man, whose selfishness is confessed, and whose mania for order is acknowledged, is touchingly described; and one wishes with him that he could find the courage to kill himself. But selfishness unadorned by charm is unacceptable; and Mr Heppenstall has encountered the classic difficulty of creating a character so unpleasant that it is difficult to care about his predicament.

The prose is clearly written by a craftsman, although his "startling particularity of observations" seems an endless cataloguing of detail appropriate to the narrator, but tedious to the reader, as is the narrator's snobbery which borders on the offensive. Perhaps The Journals of Rayner Heppenstall, which are also published this week, will shed some light on this final outburst.

Tomb or milestone?

SCIENCE FICTION Tom Hutchinson EON By Greg Bear Gollancz, £10.95

This is a monumental achievement. With only his second science fiction novel the author leaps into the realms inhabited by the great and the good. An infamous last blurb claims that with this book the whole SF genre is redefined and enlarged. Not quite, not quite. But rarely have hardware and entertainment been so perfectly interlocked in the literary genre that depends on combining business with pleasure.

Above our planet hangs a hollow Stone, vast as the imagination of Man. Space-time expert Patricia Vasquez is sent to join the many scientists working there to try to discover its origins. Tardis-like, the inner dimensions are at odds with the outer; pyramid-like, there are chambers to be breached, some containing deserted cities: one chamber goes on for ever.

But the Stone is not an alien structure. It comes from the past, the future of our humanity. Tombstone or milestone, the war that breaks out on the earth beneath its presence seems to bear witness to its prowess as oracle.

The concepts examined here are dizzying and complex; but Mr Bear's grasp of his narrative is secure and commanding. We read on, not least because the characters are never upstaged by ideas. It is a work of remarkable vision and total control. Arthur C. Clarke has his most formidable rival yet in the field of SF.

Isaac Asimov's Choice (Hale, £10.95). Mr Clarke surfaces in this alarmingly joyous collection with his first short story for five years, "Quarantine" - it is also one of the shortest ever. Valued here, too, is a wonderful pastiche on Agatha Christie by Barry Malzberg, "The Several Murders of Roger Ackroyd." Delight of many dimensions.

Best SF Of The Year, 15, edited by Terry Carr (Gollancz, £10.95). More sober-sided tales, but of a most readable worth, especially as the book contains Robert Silverberg's haunting "Sailing To Byzantium" as well as the editor's timely comments on series-novels.

The Venus Hunters, by J.G. Ballard (Gollancz, £8.95). A seance of wondrous hallucinations which first appeared in several paperbacks, here are gathered in a hardback of glimmering fantasy. My favourite: "Now, Zero" in which the author commands the reader's death. That's... not... very... funny... is...

Snowy's last bark



Tintin chasing Snowy down the most influential strip cartoon of the century into art history

Hailed in France as a latter-day Tibetan Book of the Dead, Tintin et l'Alph-Art, the album that Hergé was working on when he died, is published at last. Although exciting, it contains the germ of an exciting new theme, the relationship between words and pictures, which preoccupied Hergé throughout his life. Casterman have resisted the temptation to colour and extend the 42-page draft to Hergé's traditional 62. These are the preparatory sketches, with dialogue presented separately, complete with hesitations, corrections and marvellous ad hoc inventions. To read Alph-Art is to see the most influential European cartoonist of our century examining his astonishing art anew.

The breathless narrative centres on a gang of art forgers operating under cover of a phoney conceptualist gallery called Alph-Art. The whole album presents in parable a simultaneous attraction to and revulsion from the art to which Hergé was a significant contributor. Key exchanges focus on the pretensions of modern art, shown particularly in Captain Haddock's reluctant purchase of an enormous plexiglass sculpture in the shape of the letter H. There's a new view of women too, including the gallery secretary, a Nana Moskouri lookalike with a neat line in self-abasement, and a moving glimpse of Madame Lajot, the book-keeper with "25 years of slavery" in the gallery behind her. Snowy's brief encounter with Casterman's poodle ends with a pointed rebuff. Chauvinists like Emir Ben Kalish are banished to the sidelines.

Having pursued the gang to a villa on Ischia (where else?) and discovered a horde of freshly minted Modiglianis, Picassos, and Gauguins, Tintin is confronted at gunpoint by their oily leader: "We are going to pour liquid polyester over you, you are to become a sculpture signed by César and no one will ever know that this work of art is the last resting place of little Tintin." The ironies multiply. Our last glimpse of Snowy is at the window of Tintin's cell; his last words, an encouraging "Woahh!"

Methuen, Hergé's British publishers, are aiming about all over the place. Dimly realizing the importance of the material they hold, they seem to be unsure of its market. They have misleadingly packaged The Valley of the Cobras, a Jo, Zette, and Jocko adventure from 1940, to look like a Tintin book. Some of the games in The Tintin Games Book are so facile it is hard to imagine them holding any child's attention. Others demand an impossibly intimate knowledge of the Tintin stories. Please Methuen, can we have Tintin au pays des Soviets and Tintin au Congo in English?

WINNER OF THE BOOKER PRIZE FOR FICTION 1986 Kingsley Amis THE OLD DEVILS "There is one old devil writing better than he ever did." ANTHONY BURGESS, OBSERVER "A genius at full throttle." ROGER LEWIS, FINANCIAL TIMES "This is vintage Kingsley Amis." VICTORIA GLENDENING, THE TIMES "One not to be missed..." FERDINAND MOUNT, SUNDAY TELEGRAPH "Brilliant comic insight." ANTHONY HILL, THE CHAMPION "From LUCKY JIM to STANBEY AND THE WOMEN, read his past masterpieces in Penguin HUTCHINSON £9.95

Oval Officitis and Factoids

THRILLERS Tim Heald SANTORINI By Alistair Maclean Collins, £9.95 NIGHT OF THE FOX By Jack Higgins Collins, £9.95

After more than 30 books one of the country's most distinguished old thriller writers has suffered a nasty and rather unexpected attack of Oval Office Syndrome. Readers of Mr Alistair Maclean will know that he is at his best on the bridge of an indomitable British craft fighting its way through stupendous seas. The crew - and part of the plot - will resemble one of those surries in which an Englishman, a Scotsman, an Irishman, and a Welshman say or do something incredibly characteristic. They will be united, not only against the appalling gale, but also against a number of perfectly filthy foreigners - preferably Jerries.

Well the old boy starts off in the conventional manner. There's a map of the Eastern Med., with a lot of dots charting a voyage across the Aegean, and the first sentence conforms so absolutely to the Maclean stereotype that it needs to be savoured in its entirety:

An overhead broadcaster on the bridge of the frigate Ariadne cracked into life, a bell rang twice and then O'Rourke's voice came through, calm, modulated, precise and unmistakably Irish.

The author is clearly in fine fettle. Almost at once the Ariadne gets a Mayday signal from a sinking yacht, and a stricken American bomber falls into the sea two miles south of Cape Akrotiri. By page 24 the villains are on board. How do I guess that they're villains? Step forward Mr Andropoulos - "He looked as if he hadn't shaved that morning but then, he would always look as if he hadn't shaved that morning"; and Alexander - "a tall man with a thin, unsmiling face and black, cold eyes"; and, finally, Aristotle with his "watchful eyes and a serious expression." These glassy-eyed, stubbly-jawed Greek johnnies are obviously fearful rotters, and what's more they come bearing the - marginal - sex interest. These are Irene ("wide green eyes") and Eugenia ("warm brown eyes"). Mr Maclean is one of English Literature's great eye specialists.

From now on however the book starts to flag. There are huge potential bangs on the ocean bed; a brilliant overweight Admiral arrives to take over; and some scientists join in. There's a lot of rather inane chatter, especially from the

Admiral, who is given to "nodding imperceptibly", and saying: "A suitably chastened Admiral suits before you. We live, we learn." I sensed something was wrong, but couldn't quite put my finger on it until page 174 when suddenly it was 5.30am, and the President of the United States was "showing every year of his age" in - you've guessed it - the Oval Office. Mercifully Mr Maclean doesn't tell us about the office furniture, but from that moment on I felt the book was doomed.

Some readers, notably unreviewed thriller writers, complain that reviewers spend too much time on books they don't much like. They would rather read about books the reviewer enjoyed. Would, of course, that there were more such books. But filling them (and fail they usually do), one has a duty to devote some time and space to those books that W.H. Smith are going to feature most prominently in their windows. A major part of any self-respecting reviewer's task is to cast doubt on the judgement of such arbiters of popular taste as W.H. Smith and Penguin books.

Hence I mention Mr Higgins's latest work. Mr Higgins also starts with a map, but it is quickly clear that he is suffering from a nasty attack of Factoids. At the very beginning there is that tiny, but telling, little disclaimer about how while, on the one hand the Germans bla bla bla, on the other "it must be stressed that this is a work of fiction" and bla bla bla. In addition to Factoids, Mr Higgins also has Jackboots on the Jacket, an unpleasant condition that gets serious on page 31, when Hitler "almost danced with delight", and said: "A bad morning for General Eisenhower, gentlemen."

The response to this is, "Good news indeed, my Führer," Goebbels said, and delivered his usual high laugh." Aeh so!

The complete present. A SUPPLEMENT TO OXFORD DICTIONARIES VOLUME 14 PART 2 The final volume of the OED Supplement completes a 'work which will last longer and prove more influential than anything else published... this half-century' (The Times). It is the final piece in a great jigsaw which gives the fullest possible treatment of the English language from the middle of the twelfth century until the 1980s. Oxford Dictionaries You know they're right.

THE TIMES DIARY

Courting trouble

Liverpool City Council's cavalier attitude to its record of upheld complaints of maladministration (13 last year, all against the housing department) could land it before the courts. The latest report by Patricia Thomas, the ombudsman for the north of England, chastises councillors and officers for misleading her during her investigation into an upheld complaint about the non-completion of repairs. Rather than disciplining the miscreants and compensating the tenant, the housing committee chose merely to "note" the report. Ms Thomas has now written saying that obstructing an ombudsman can amount to the equivalent of contempt in the High Court. Her letter concludes with the warning that she is giving councillors a "final opportunity to put their own house in order".

Another irritating thing about Liverpool's housing department: its switchboard plays yee "Home Sweet Home" down the phone.

Horse's mouth

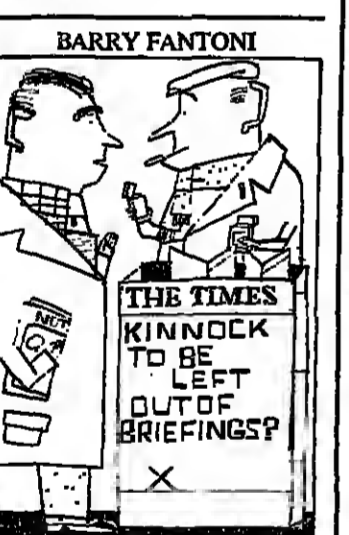
Who was responsible for certifying disgraced Morgan Grenfell dealer Geoffrey Collier as a fit and proper person to join the Stock Exchange? None other than Sir Kenneth Berrill, chairman of the City's new self-regulatory body, the Securities and Investment Board. Berrill used to be chairman of Vickers de Costa, for which Collier worked in New York, and was asked to give a reference as a previous employer. Brokers may remember that notice of Collier's moral propriety posted on the Stock Exchange floor earlier this year.

Motionless

Giovanni Spadolini, the Italian defence minister, grasped the wrong end of the stick when the Oxford Union wrote asking him to speak. Clearly believing the university was about to accord him some long-delayed honour, Spadolini enthusiastically replied, heaping praise on the city's proud history. When Union officials gently indicated that the invitation came from a bunch of penguin-suited students rather than Lord Stockton, the Chancellor, his interest cooled. Suddenly the pressure of affairs of state made the trip impossible.

Grime gripe

Appalled at the sight of a dirty Leyland truck on show at the recent Barchild International Fair, Alan Clark, the Trade Minister, cast aside his image as castle-residing laird and started to clean the windows with his handkerchief. A veneer of desert dust was one thing but this was sheer filth, he thought. Embarrassed exhibitors restrained him before he could give the vehicle a real valeting. Clark left convinced that British exporters are losing custom by neglecting the finer points of presentation.



At least he'll have something in common with Reagan

Bowing out

Though no decision has been officially taken about the fate of Commander Brian Sparks, the Notting Hill police chief alleged to have made racist remarks to fellow officers, police sources say he will take early retirement on medical grounds. Sparks has been on sick leave pending a decision on whether to charge him under the recently introduced racial discrimination clause in the Police Disciplinary Code. So far the clause has not been used.

Job ad for teachers: "Breat Education: come and join us... a small, friendly and exciting borough..." Tell that to Maureen McGoldrick.

Festive hall

The late Geoffrey Horsfall, designer of London's Hayward Gallery, would have been heartened by the imminent arrival of 50 Christmas trees to adorn the adjacent Sculpture Terrace, one of his most fervent, though unfulfilled wishes was that the hard edges of the site should be softened by the presence of greenery. The trees are a festive gift from the much maligned Forestry Commission and are, somewhat ironically, the result of a suggestion (rejected) by the conservation and arts group Common Ground that the Hayward should mount an exhibition related to the environment. This is good news for putative viewers of the current Rodin exhibition there, for it is so popular that they are having a mightily long wait outside and will surely welcome the verdure.

Britain has not lost, but is in danger of losing, a great opportunity in Hong Kong. In ten years time our lease expires and the world's most successful economy, relative to its size, will fall back upon mainland China. Docking the satellite with the mother ship is as nerve-wracking as any space mission and a lot more significant; for not only is China itself on the move but what seems now to be a relentless shift of wealth and power to the Pacific Basin will also gain momentum in the 1990s.

The shape of the 21st century has begun to appear, and Hong Kong, our most valuable legacy of the 19th century, offers a tremendous chance for us to feature prominently as well. I believe we will take the chance, but as usual we are leaving things very late.

There are only two ways in which China can realize its permanent, inbuilt ambition to return to the centre of the universe, or at least the Asian Pacific. One is to offer the Japanese participation on such a scale that it would amount, virtually, to economic colonization. That the Chinese will not do. Nor would the Japanese be enthusiastic since they owe their success to their fascinating ability to be Nippon-centric as a civilization though global in their approach to markets.

The other way is for China to harness the energies of Hong Kong, as a free port and a world financial market. Effectively, that means making use of Hong Kong by leaving it alone. An analogy would be for the British government to finance its own industrial

Helping Hong Kong, and Britain as well

by Lord Gowrie

start-up schemes by allowing people to make more use of offshore centres such as Jersey or the Isle of Man where their own capital was concerned. The present leaders of China have acknowledged that that is what they need, and what they want.

They may not bring it off; they may give way to leaders who hold different views or who face more difficult political circumstances. But it is exciting to think of the possibilities for the world, for Hong Kong, and for ourselves if they do. This has little to do with greed, the enterprise being to provide both grub and ethics. Civilization depends not on food and drink and shelter but on the surplus that liberates us from thinking only of these.

For most of this century the world has lost the benefit of China's ancient civilizing example, for Chinese internal political and economic developments have come first. That is changing and China is in a much more confident and outward-looking mood, with

the present rulers wishing to use Hong Kong to build upon that confidence. It is their window, not just to the developed world, but their own opportunity. There can be a Chinese sensibility, and Chinese works of art, for the world to share in again.

Japanese, American and Australian investment in Hong Kong has increased considerably this year; nervous British fund managers should take note. The government should also show more confidence in the success of its own diplomacy which, after a shaky start, produced the Sino-British accord and the Queen's visit to Peking.

The way to do this is to be more robust and generous over issuing British passports to the Hong Kong Chinese. They feel both insulted and abandoned through our parsimony; if we don't believe that Hong Kong will continue to flourish, why should they?

We should imitate and extend the US and Canadian methods and offer passports to those who

bank with us sufficient money to support themselves, plus a measure of investment in the British economy. This last would not be restricted to paper investment but be contingent on the provision of five years sustained employment, at median small firm level, in a development area of Britain.

The government would be accused of selling passports and violating equity. Neither case stands up and it should tackle both head on. Increased investment can get you a passport or a work permit now. (I used to administer the permits). We should be looking, therefore, to a more liberal application of existing rules. As our own economic self-confidence returns, we can only gain from being more liberal, and not only in respect of Hong Kong.

The objection that only wealthy Chinese could benefit is just as easily overcome. It is sensible to restrict emigration to Britain until it can be absorbed. Absorbing people from Hong Kong prepared to invest here would be no problem. In practice, emigration would not occur. Once the safety net of a British passport was underneath them, the wealth creators of Hong Kong would remain there, committing to Britain to attend to their business obligations but otherwise getting on with the job, with confidence restored, of giving mainland China its window on the world.

© Times Newspapers, 1986. Lord Gowrie was Minister of State, Department of Employment, 1979-81, and Minister for the Arts, 1983-85.

Robin Oakley, Political Editor, reports on Neil Kinnock's uphill struggle in selling Labour's non-nuclear defence policy

Brave, sincere - but the US is unconvinced



Kinnock at Harvard: a respectful hearing despite his misjudgement of America's post-Keyjvik mood

choice has come, that we can no longer afford to be a nuclear power and to make an adequate conventional force contribution to Nato, and that we must choose second-class status. It is in itself a brave risk to take with the British electorate.

Kinnock's Harvard speech, shorn of gimmickry, delivered with none of his party conference braggadocio, earns him the right to be taken seriously on defence. All the evidence suggests that he will lose the debate he has begun. But it is doing the current state of politics no harm to have him reminded us that the world has moved on since the atomic bomb was invented.

His message is that the time of

Mayor Andrew Young did him no favours with a badly attended meeting in Atlanta. The self-obsessed American media has ignored him at a time when the Iran arms affair crowds out all else. He has had no chance to reach the people, only to sow a few thoughts among a tiny minority of the political intelligentsia. But he has spelled out openly to those who care to listen precisely what a Labour government would do about US bases and weapons.

Kinnock has won respect for his verbal felicity and for his sincerity. As he admits himself, Americans tend to listen to his message and find to their surprise that they can buy a slice or two, but emphatically not the whole loaf. They simply do not believe that

Kinnock could persuade his party, should Labour win the election, to spend the money he says it will on strengthening conventional defence.

Dr Stephen Flanagan, director of a research centre in security affairs, said after the Harvard speech: "There must be doubts that a Labour government would stick to what it says on conventional spending. Past Labour governments have tended to have different spending priorities."

Americans are alarmed at the speed with which Kinnock says he will make the policy switch. Russell Seitz, a visiting scholar at Harvard's Centre for International Affairs, said: "You cannot restore confidence in Britain in Europe in six years. Removal of nuclear weapons and bases in Britain within 12 months as promised would be dangerous and destabilizing."

American audiences cannot discern an effective answer from Kinnock to the potential nuclear blackmail of a Europe shorn of nuclear defences. They cannot understand how a country that has been not just a member but a pillar of Nato could be willing to wreck the whole Alliance strategy. They don't see us yet as another Denmark.

The Harvard speech was delivered to a typical East Coast liberal audience. But the sympathy for Labour's position was strictly limited even there. Many predicted that it would play into the hands of American isolationists. In seeking to portray the US as thirsting for arms reductions and Mrs Thatcher as a belligerent opponent of any cuts, Kinnock has misjudged post-Keyjvik American opinion. Much of it is still aghast at what Reagan nearly gave away.

But all tended to agree with Dr Richard Haass of the Kennedy School of Government - who is a Republican - that whatever the thought of Kinnock's views "he is very articulate and very committed. What he has done is to clear up doubts about what his views really were."

Kinnock's mission has been brave and honest. But he has not stilled American resentment of those who seek to dine a la carte at the Nato table. And he has intensified the transatlantic division identified by Sir Oliver Wright, the former British ambassador to Washington into Wimps and Cowboys. The Americans, being strong, do not fear the use of power to solve problems and are typified as cowboys by fastidious Europeans. The Europeans, being less powerful, seek ways to live with problems and are scorned by Americans as wimps.

The helping hand Britain identified with the wimps.

London when a copy of a British Punjabi-language paper which reproduced Mrs Thatcher's greeting was taken from her. On the reverse was an advertisement for a Sikh rally. She had also arranged through the High Commission to deliver a parcel of clothes to a Sikh friend in jail on terrorist charges.

Professor Bedi told me yesterday: "It will be suicidal if, through pressure from some quarters, an attempt is made to abandon the Anglo-Asian Conservative Society, or to change its shape and form at a time when we are so close to a general election. We are not involved with the politics of the Indian sub-continent. I can assure the Foreign Office and the Indian government that the Anglo-Asian Society is in no way linked with any extremist or terrorist organization and under my chairmanship it will never be used as a platform to propagate any other ideals but Conservatism."

Given the twin pressures of a nervous Foreign Office and the rivalry between Hindus and Sikhs, the Tory chiefs hardly know where to turn. Their inclination is to dissolve the Asian Society and start again.

Others say Central Office should be less faint-hearted and must accept the challenge of setting out to broaden its Asian movement beyond the London businessmen and look to the temples and mosques for recognized and respected figures who could swing the Asian vote the Tory way.

John Warden

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Ronald Butt

Only one way to a new accord

Last month Senator Gary Hart (Democrat and possible presidential candidate) and Senator William Cohen (Republican) spoke side by side at a dinner given for them in London. They then answered questions alternately. Their performance delighted their audience, which was largely from the City, not only because they spoke with style and reason but because they did not conceal the substratum of shared assumptions underlying their thinking.

On some matters, of course, their opinions differed. On taxation in America, for instance, Senator Hart had a preference for indirect taxes over direct taxes, partly for protectionist reasons (he thought that it made sense for an America which imported half its oil to tax oil imports). Senator Cohen plainly did not share these opinions. But on the fundamentals of policy there was remarkable agreement. The audience was left in no doubt, for instance, that no Democratic president would abandon the Strategic Defence Initiative. Whatever adjustment might be made, funding and research would continue.

Every American, they said, is for strong defence, which is something that Neil Kinnock simply cannot understand. Whenever the senators sang a different melodic line it was but always contrapuntally, and therefore fundamentally in harmony. If only (said nearly everyone I spoke to) we could have that kind of moderate and constructive politics in Britain, instead of our destructive confrontation of opposites.

Yet there were some whose warm approval seemed to misunderstand the lesson to be drawn from this manifestation of the contrast between American and British politics. In a speech of thanks, Christopher Patten, Minister for Overseas Aid, and a renowned moderate, or Wet, observed with evident relief that it all went to show that there was no seismic shift to the right after all, either in the US or Britain. Most people, he thought, were "middle of the road and rather sensible" which, though true enough in everyday life, seemed to carry a different implication given Patten's known scepticism about Thatcherite policies.

But a seismic shift to the right was precisely what has been necessary in Britain to bring the political centre back to a position which genuinely reflects public feeling and makes consensus politics of the Hart-Cohen kind possible. If Britain now has a chance of a new moderate consensus, it is only because Mrs Thatcher has acted decisively enough to put a stop to the drift of the centre to the left which had gone on for several decades as other parties had been pressured into accepting criteria prescribed by socialism.

The unbridgeable gap between socialism and the acceptable politics of consensus in a free society has been exposed. A new political consensus reflecting what the nation wants is essential. The Tories must eventually alternate in power with another party which is not Labour. If Mrs Thatcher achieves anything durable it will be because we now establish a political party structure resembling the American. This has nothing to do with our different constitutions. We need not envy

the American system, which is no better and in many ways is worse than ours. We could not have had a Watergate here. Nixon would have been stopped well before he fell into that mire.

Nor would it be possible for a British prime minister to be as embarrassed as President Reagan now is over arms sales to Iran and the use of the money. Ministers have prevented it. The current British difficulties over the attempt to prevent publication of the Peter Wright memoirs is of a wholly different order; they arise not from the system but from a political failure to foresee that the attempt, though fully justified in terms of national security, might be counter-productive.

What we have to envy the Americans for is not their constitution but the fact that their party politics work on a basis of fundamental agreement about the nature of American society representing what the mass of the people want. There is no body of American opinion of any size which is inimical to a free economic society, or which wishes to subordinate individual responsibility to state direction; or is hostile to profit and private ownership, or wishes to impose "equality" by state direction.

All the evidence here too is that the great majority does not want socialism and does want a free society with recognized social obligations. But the British were stuck with a socialist alternative by the twists of industrial history. This led the trade unions to send to Parliament their own party which, being responsible more to causes and block votes than to the broad opinion of the electors, was manipulable by extremists.

Social stability depends on restoring the position to what it used to be when Conservatives and the old Liberal Party (like Republicans and Democrats) operated within a consensus about the desired nature of society which might have been re-created if Labour had been reformed as Gaitskell had hoped. That hope of a social democratic alternative to the Tories can now be achieved only by another Labour defeat. A third rejection of a party whose fundamental extremism is daily shown up by its leaders' incoherent attempts to conceal it could give the Social Democratic Party the opportunity to take its place, which was the original reason for the SDP's formation.

A Labour victory could destroy the SDP, while the dangers of a hung parliament would be hardly less. If it resulted in an Alliance coalition with Labour it would make a mockery of the Social Democrats' secession. If, on the other hand, the Alliance were obliged to enter a coalition with the Tories that could irrevocably taint the SDP in the eyes of electors who still vote reluctantly for Labour's brand name as representing their class image because they cannot bring themselves to think that the Conservatives can do so.

A new consensus requires a third defeat of a Labour Party which has ceased to represent its natural constituency. But breaking the spell of Labour's brand name and founding a free society consensus would have been out of the question but for the years of Thatcherism, and a seismic shift away from the left.

Joseph Connolly

The callers who don't ring true

British Telecom tells me that these days very few telephone calls are misrouted as a result of defects in the system - the problem's pretty well licked; over human error, of course, they regret they have no control. But what I should like to know is why the few that do manage to slip through the net join forces with every errant human in the land to ensure that my phone is a-jangle day and night, forcing me to squander hours exchanging meaningless banter with an unbroken chain of complete and utter strangers. The only common bond among them is that they all wish to speak to someone else.

I am speaking of the deranged people who never bother to put on their glasses to make a call and lose their index fingers in a hhr as they approach the dial. They can get quite annoyed with you for being a wrong number and think little of wasting yet more of your time by subjecting you to a detailed interrogation as to your number, your address, your blood group, etc.

Normally I just hang up, but the other morning I received a call from a grumpy old gentleman whose bovine stupidity and tenacity near broke my spirit. His opening volley:

"Who the devil are you?" "None of your concern. Whom did you want?" "Just get Sheila on the phone, will you?"

"No. There is no Sheila. You have a wrong number."

"What do you mean there's no Sheila? She's my daughter." "Sheila doesn't live here. Wrong number wrong number wrong number."

"You have the wrong number." "I have not got the wrong number. I dialled the right number. Are you suggesting I don't even know my daughter's telephone number? You are on the wrong phone."

"I am on the phone I am always on. It is in my house; that is where I keep it. I am holding it at this very minute - the phone is here. Sheila isn't."

"Has she gone out, then?" "I don't know whether she's gone out or not. I have nothing to do with Sheila. We have never met."

"Don't give me that one. If you don't know Sheila how come you're round at her place, then?" "Look. Let's start again. What number do you want?" "0832 5146."

"But... that's my number." "That's Sheila's number. When will she be back?" "She won't... What I mean is..."

"Won't? What do you mean, won't? Here - you haven't done anything to her - have you? What are you - a masked intruder? You sound a bit evil, if you want the truth."

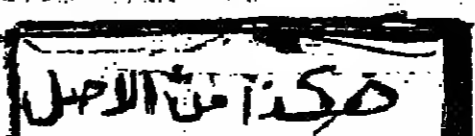
"Sheila's not here! I don't know when she'll be back. What am I saying?! I don't even know if she's gone out! She won't be back because she never went away... That is..."

"So you haven't molested her, or anything? Of course, I've only got your word."

"I have never even seen the woman!"

"Well... just put her on the line to set my mind at rest." "You are mad. I am going now." "Oh yes? Well it just so happens I have to go myself now because I've got to call the vet - but if you've harmed one single hair on Sheila's head..."

"And now his voice rose in triumph, as he played the trump. 'You can't get out of it as easily as that. If it's a wrong number - if mind - how do you explain your bloody well answering it? Hey?' I have to lie down, now. Don't try phoning - it's off the hook."





COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 3: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning...

His Royal Highness was received by the Mayor of Bournemouth (Councillor Dan Crane) and the Director of the Award Scheme (Mr Robert Heron).

His Royal Highness was received by the Master of the Company (Mr R.W. Abbott).

His Royal Highness was received by the Lord Mayor of Westminster (Councillor Mrs Terence Mallinson).

His Royal Highness was received by the Vice-Chancellor of the University (the Lord Flowers).

His Royal Highness was received by the Dean of St Paul's (the Very Reverend Alan Webster).

CLARENCE HOUSE December 3: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this morning visited the Royal Smithfield Show at Earl's Court.

KENSINGTON PALACE December 3: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning presided at a meeting...

of The Prince's Council at 10, Buckingham Gate, SW1 and subsequently entertained Members of the Council and Duchy Land Stewards to luncheon at Kensington Palace.

The Princess of Wales this morning opened the new Headquarters of The Body Shop plc at Hawthorn Road, Wick, Littlehampton, West Sussex.

Afterwards, Her Royal Highness visited the Downland Housing Society Project run by the Sussex Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus at 5, Grand Avenue, Worthing.

The Princess of Wales, attended by Viscountess Campden and Lieutenant-Commander Richard Aylard, RN, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

KENSINGTON PALACE December 3: The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present this evening at the British-American Ball at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W1.

The Duchess of Gloucester this evening presided at the Commemorative Certificate to the 1985/86 Smith and Nephew Foundation Awards at a reception held at the Royal College of Surgeons, London WC2.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE December 3: The Duke of Kent this morning opened the Tenth National Energy Management Conference and Exhibition and later visited the Department of Trade and Industry's CIMAR Demonstration at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, West Midlands.

His Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Captain Michael Campbell Lamerton.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE December 3: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present this evening at the opening of the exhibition 'The New Thracian Treasure from Rogozen, Bulgaria' by Mr Georgi Yordanov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, at the British Museum.

Birthdays today The Marchioness of Anglesey, 62; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland, 63; Mr Ronnie Corbett, 56; Sir Patrick Donner, 82; Miss Gemma Jones, 44; Mrs Pamela W. Matthews, 72; Miss Yvonne Minton, 43; Professor Brian Morris, 56; Dr A. L. Rowse, 83; Mr J. C. Trewin, 78; the Rev Professor C. J. M. Weir, 89.

Appointments Colonel W.P. Fletcher, late Royal Army Dental Corps, to be Honorary Dental Surgeon to the Queen.

Miss Emaid Castle, Headmistress of Red Maids' School, Bristol, to be Principal of Cheltenham Ladies' College from next September.

Miss Anne Heather Steel to be a Circuit Judge on the Northern Circuit.

Dinners

Shipwrights' Company The Duke of Edinburgh, Permanent Master of the Shipwrights' Company presided at a special meeting of the court of the company at Ironmongers' Hall yesterday when the Prince of Wales, a liverrman of the company, was admitted as a member of the Court of Assistants.

Afterwards, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Prince of Wales attended a lively dinner at Ironmongers' Hall. The Master and Clerk of the Ironmongers' Company, Admiral Sir William Blandford (First Sea Lord) and Captain J.L. Weatherill (Commanding Officer of HMS Ark Royal) were also present.

Lord Merton of Lindsay, Lord Merton of Lindsay, presided at a dinner given by the Primrose League at the House of Lords yesterday.

City Livery Club The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual dinner of the City Livery Club held at Guildhall last night.

Salmon and Trout Association Lord Home of the Hirsel presided at the annual dinner of the Salmon and Trout Association held last night at Fishmongers' Hall.

Champagne Bollinger M and Mme Christian Bizot and the Directors of Mentzer & Co Ltd gave a dinner at the Inn on the Park Hotel yesterday in honour of the champion National Hunt jockeys for the 1985/86 season.

Southgate Hockey Club The centenary of Southgate Hockey Club was celebrated at Lord's at a dinner held last night.

Causing House Sir Peter Macadam, President of the Hispanic and Lusitanian Council, was host at a dinner at Causing House yesterday, in honour of Ambassadors and heads of mission of Latin America, Spain and Portugal.

Oxford Society Lord Tweedsmuir, Brasenose College, President of the Oxford Society, presided at the annual dinner held at Middle Temple Hall yesterday.

The painting has been lent by Mr Mohamed Al Fayed, the owner of Harrods. Mr Al Fayed has bought the remaining contents of the Windsor mansion, and is embarking on a painstaking restoration of the interior.

The portrait, painted in 1939, three years after the Abdication, shows the duchess set against a lowering sky, wearing a severe steel grey dress, unbuttoned at the neck and decorated with a jewelled bowler brooch.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were the guests of honour at the British American Associates ball held at Grosvenor House yesterday.

The Hon F.T. Baring and Miss A.S.E. Taylor The engagement is announced between Francis, son of Lord and Lady Northbrook, of East Stratton, Winchester, and Amelia, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Reginald Taylor, of Hursley, Winchester.

The Hon J.F.M. Grosvenor and Miss D. Rossi The engagement is announced between Julian, only son of Lord Ebury, and Elfin Lady Ebury, and Danielle, sixth daughter of Mr and Mrs Theo Rossi, of Sydney, Australia.

Mr F.P.H. de Zulueta and the Hon Mrs P. Wodehouse The engagement is announced between Francis, son of Sir Philip and the Hon Lady de Zulueta, and Pandora (née Jeffrey), daughter of Mrs W.J. Germain and stepdaughter of Mr W.J. Germain.

Mr D.P.H.P. Duncombe and Miss S.A. Bateman The engagement is announced between David, only son of Sir Philip and Lady Duncombe, and Sarah, daughter of the late Mr R.T.G. Bateman and Mrs Bateman, of Westfield Farm, Great Brickhill, Buckinghamshire.

Mr D.R. Ashby and Miss S.L. Harriet The engagement is announced between Duncan Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Brian A. Ashby, of Lumb Grange, Hazelwood, Derby, and Sarah Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael D. Clifton, Northwood, Middlesex.

Mr J.P. White and Miss C.P. Gould The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr and Mrs D. White, of Mickfield, Leeds, and Caroline, only daughter of Mr and Mrs S.A. Gould, of Sydenham, London.

Sale room Lewis Carroll's drawings of Alice fetch £187,000

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Nine pen and brown ink drawings depicting scenes from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, executed by Dodgson himself, the author of the book, were sold for £187,000 (unpublished estimate £100,000) at Christie's yesterday to an American private collector.

For most of their existence the drawings have masqueraded under an attribution to Tenniel, the illustrator who made the drawings for the published edition of Alice.

The drawings sold yesterday were copied by Dodgson from Tenniel's. They were presented to Alice probably in the spring of 1865 and sold by her granddaughter in 1958 as Tenniel's work. The discovery that they were by Dodgson, not Tenniel, was made in 1979.

Sotheby's evening sale of Tuesday night was a watershed, earning £40,159,960 for 105 lots in the course of two hours. No single sale in auction history has made so much money. The previous high for a single sale was £29 million.



English showing for duchess portrait

By Suzy Menkes

A striking portrait of the Duchess of Windsor (pictured above) will be seen in England for the first time next week, the 50th anniversary of the Abdication of Edward VIII.

This morning the painting, by British artist Gerald Brockhurst, will leave Paris, where it has dominated the Windsor's French home for 30 years. It will go on display next Saturday at the Graves Art Gallery, Sheffield, in a Brockhurst exhibition which will reach the National Portrait Gallery in London next April.

The painting has been lent by Mr Mohamed Al Fayed, the owner of Harrods. Mr Al Fayed has bought the remaining contents of the Windsor mansion, and is embarking on a painstaking restoration of the interior.

The portrait, painted in 1939, three years after the Abdication, shows the duchess set against a lowering sky, wearing a severe steel grey dress, unbuttoned at the neck and decorated with a jewelled bowler brooch.

The Duke of Windsor paid £250 guineas for the picture of his wife, who was exhibited in 1939 at Knoedler's Gallery in New York, where Brockhurst was living.

The distinctive dress by the American designer, Mainbocher, and an offering it in a textile and accessories collection.

The portrait is remarkable for its strong sexual charge and its expression of the former Mrs Simpson's magnetic style. 'It has the intensity and compelling quality of all Brockhurst's major work', says Mrs Anne Goodchild, Assistant Keeper of Sheffield City Art Galleries, who located the painting and has organized the exhibition.

Gerald Brockhurst was a prominent society painter in the 1930s, whose commissions included Merle Oberon and Margarete Dietrich, whose portraits will also be on show.

Mrs Goodchild's research shows that Brockhurst was fascinated by Mrs Simpson and planned the portrait long before the Abdication. He wanted also to paint the Duke of Windsor in his uniform of the Welsh Guards, but this was never realised.

OBITUARY

MR LORAIN CONRAN Curator of vision

Mr Loraine Conran, distinguished art gallery director, died on November 25. He was 74.

George Loraine Conran was born on March 29, 1912. Originally destined for the Navy, he was educated at the RNC Dartmouth.

But an early interest in the history of art led to a change of direction. He worked for a time in journalism, writing art reviews for a number of newspapers, including The Times.

But then a curator friend of his encouraged him to go into the museum world, and in 1935 he obtained an appointment at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, moving the following year to the Walker Art Gallery at Liverpool, as deputy director.

In 1938 he became, at 26, the youngest director in the country when he was given charge of the Southampton Art Gallery. There he made judicious acquisitions of twentieth-century paintings; and, through his close friendship with Arthur Jeffries, the Jeffries collection was given to Southampton.

He joined the Navy in the Second World War, serving as a gunnery officer in a destroyer, attaining the rank of lieutenant-commander, and being mentioned in despatches. There was, perhaps, always something of the naval officer about him - in the Beatty rather than the Jellicoe mould.

His next post was the curatorship of the Iveagh Bequest at Kenwood (1950-62), where his head attendant, called him holding "the visions" every morning. It was at Kenwood that he made his greatest mark, initiating the LCC summer exhibitions on aspects of British eighteenth-century art, which were continued with such success under the GLC and which are still maintained by English Heritage.

He revived interest in George Romney with an exhibition of his paintings and drawings (1961), and the following year brought off a coup in bringing to London an "American University Collection" from the Allen Memorial Art Museum, Ohio.

During this time he was, in addition to his museum duties, an outstanding secretary of the Contemporary Arts Society (1959-65), and curator of the Cook Collection, Richmond, which was then stored at Kenwood.

In 1962, when he seemed some years to come, he moved to the Manchester City Art Gallery, as director. He bought well for Manchester, raising the annual budget from £5,000 to over £100,000. His most resounding success was the purchase, in 1970, of Stubbs's Cheetah and Stag with two Indians.

But relations with the Corporation were not easy, and were further complicated by the formation of the Greater Manchester Council, to whose funds the gallery did not have access.

He retired in 1976 with something of the appearance of a broken man, caused, no doubt, partly by the onset of Parkinson's disease.

Yet he continued to play a part in museum affairs, attending the museums' conference. He had been hon secretary of the Museums' Association (1959-64), and its president (1966-7). He also served on the British committee of the International Council of Museums (1959-71).

Conran was of medium height, dark and handsome, with broad shoulders and a wide, humorous mouth, which gave him an uncanny resemblance to the actor, Glenn Ford.

In 1938 he married Jacqueline O'Neill Roe, a ballet dancer. They had a son and two daughters (one of whom died). The marriage ended in divorce in 1970, and that year he married Elizabeth Johnston, curator of the Bowles Museum, Barnard Castle, with whom he had another daughter.

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MR PAUL CURRAN

Mr Paul Curran, actor, for many years a familiar and well-regarded figure on the London stage, died on December 1. He was 73.

A Scot, he was born on April 25, 1913. He made his debut in Cinderella at the Alhambra Theatre, Glasgow. After this he spent four years at Glasgow Citizens' Theatre.

He worked in the provinces for many years, arriving in the 1950s in London where he joined the Old Vic (later the National Theatre).

Among his parts was Duke Senior in the all-male As You Like It (1967), and the schoolmaster Holofernes in Olivier's revival of Love's Labour Lost the following year. In Three Sisters (also 1967) he was the army doctor Chebutkin before Olivier, who had been ill, came back to the part.

He was Gibbet in The Beaux' Straataeng (1970), and Northumberland in Richard II, and the mayor in the American comedy The Front Page (both 1972).

But his work at the National will be especially remembered. There, in 1972, he was Sir Peter Teazle (to Louise Parnell's Lady Teazle) in Jonathan Miller's production of The School for Scandal. He showed his gift for tony old gentlemen when, in Pinter's Trelawny of the Wells, he played the vice-chancellor who softens at the name of Edmund Kean. He took over Friar Francis in Zeffirelli's production of Much Ado About Nothing.

Recently, for Peter Wood's group at the National, he was the judge in Arthur Miller's The American Clock. At the time of his death he was rehearsing as the doctor in King Lear.

Gibbons fitted easily into both classical and contemporary plays. A lucid speaker with a vigorous intelligence, he was welcome in any cast.

ARCHBISHOP MARTIN O'CONNOR

Archbishop Martin J. O'Connor who, during many years in Rome as an advisor to six Popes, died on November 28. He was 86.

He was born at Scranton, Pennsylvania, where he became an altar boy. He served in the Army during the First World War.

He was ordained in 1924, and studied for a doctorate in theology in Rome at the Urban College of Propaganda and the University of Apollinare.

He returned to Scranton where he was consecrated bishop in 1942. After the Second World War he was appointed rector of the Pontifical North American College, Rome, which had been severely damaged during the war. He raised \$4.5 million to rebuild it, and remained there until 1964.

He was consecrated titular archbishop of Laodicea, Syria, in 1959 by Pope John XXIII, and played a major part in the reforming Council convened by that Pope three years later.

In 1965, during the papacy of Paul VI, he was appointed nuncio to Malta, the first nuncio (as distinct from apostolic delegate) to go to a British territory since the Reformation.

He later served as president of the pontifical commission for social communications in Rome, which in 1971 issued pastoral guidelines for bishops.

He also served as an adviser to Popes John Paul I and II.

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Ten out of ten from the school inspectors



All present: Mrs Jones with her 150 pupils, teachers, parent helpers and dinner staff outside Addingham school, near Bradford. (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

By John Clare
Education Correspondent

Addingham school, near Bradford, has been awarded a rare gold star by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. In an unusually enthusiastic report, published yesterday, the inspectors described it as a place of "outstanding quality".

They said its curriculum was "rich and wide-ranging"; the quality of the pupils' work and standard of teaching "consistently high".

The report went on to say that the children take a delight in their work; they are confident and eager to learn. Relations between staff and pupils are excellent and the atmosphere is "happy and secure".

Addingham school has 150 children on the roll, aged between four and nine years. Most come from in and around Addingham village, which is expanding rapidly and is known as an upwardly mobile area. About half the pupils are from middle-class homes and some 15 per cent live on local farms.

Mrs Judith Jones who has taught at the school for the past 20 years and served the past 11 as head teacher, said

yesterday: "We are really thrilled about the report but it's also a bit of an anticlimax. The inspectors were here in January and we have moved on since then."

"We're progressive in the sense that we'll look at anything new — but not for the sake of jumping on the latest bandwagon."

"Some of our parents would like us to be more traditional. They'd have us all wearing blazers with crests and organized into houses."

"They tend to think that our emphasis on the creative things like art and music are time-wasting. But they put up with us because they know our work on language and maths is so good."

It is an analysis the inspectors confirm: "Standards of reading are high throughout the school... a broad range of mathematical experience is provided... the art and craft work is of high quality... the coincidence of these different elements is rarely found in one school."

The report was celebrated with buns and cream cakes for the children and bottles of wine for the staff.

Why Havers was left out of spy decision

Continued from page 1

To allow the book was taken, Sir Robert said: "I have not discovered any minutes of it (the meeting) but I have to emphasize that these matters were being discussed in considerable secrecy apparently because we were not supposed to have a copy of the book."

The Government has so far refused to comment on the circumstances in which the manuscript came into its possession, a refusal maintained yesterday by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, in the Commons debate.

But *The Times* has now established from senior government sources that the explanation later given to the Attorney-General for his not having been consulted on the book was because of the very delicate and sensitive nature

of the source.

The disclosure will add weight to the view held by the opposition parties that Sir Michael was not informed because he would have had to have been told that the book was illegitimately acquired. In his independent role as prosecutor Sir Michael would have had no choice but to initiate consideration of proceedings.

It is believed that the M15 lawyers used that the argument — that they could not admit to breaking the law — to advance their claim that the book could not be stopped by an injunction.

Senior ministers can only surmise that it was either stolen from the publishers or Mr Fincher, handed to the Government by a sympathetic printer, or even "borrowed" — the text taken away, photocopied and returned.

BCal buys US jets for £700m

Continued from page 1

405 passengers in a three-class layout and have a cargo capacity of 25 tonnes. It will be capable of operating non-stop over a range of 7,000 miles.

Although the aircraft so far only exists on paper McDonnell Douglas is expected to announce that building work will begin in the new year after the signing of orders from four other airlines who are expected to follow BCal within the next few weeks.

The order is the biggest ever placed by BCal and means that it now has a total of 17 new jets on order worth more than £1,000 million.

The MD-11 will carry up to 405 passengers in a three class layout.

Frank Johnson at the Commons

What is really bugging MPs

The House was waiting for the Alliance motion which would enable members for the first time to have a full debate on the Wright spy case as opposed to just questions and points of order. Suddenly, the Secretary for the Environment, Mr Nicholas Ridley, got up and made a statement on the rate support grant.

On to the spies. Dr Owen, moving the Alliance motion, made a masterly speech without notes, in which he put lots of difficult questions to the Home Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, who took notes of them and in his own speech took care not to answer any of them. Dr Owen became the first opponent of the Government to mount a really strong case against the Government's conduct of the Wright case. He did this by avoiding giving the impression that he could not care less about British State secrets and was only out to make people like Sir Robert Armstrong look silly. Thus he denounced Mr Wright's betrayal of his oath of secrecy — something Labour never do.

Mr Hurd, in his speech, praised Dr Owen as a way of damning the Labour backbencher who has virtually invented the alleged scandal: Mr Dale Campbell-Savours. When the latter interrupted Mr Hurd to ask why M15 officers were allowed to leak to Mr Chapman Pincher, the Home Secretary replied that Mr Campbell-Savours was "out of his depth" compared with the high level attained by Dr Owen's speech.

Mr Benn then intervened to ask whether Mr Wright's allegations were true that M15 had bugged and bugged the then Harold Wilson when Prime Minister. Mr Benn sounded envious of the then Prime Minister. In Labour terms, it would be the height of fashion to be bugged while Prime Minister. Mr Hurd referred Mr Benn to the Home Secretary of the period, Mr Roy Jenkins, who in his own elegant contribution to the debate said he knew nothing about it.

Mr Hurd rejected the Alliance idea that the legislature oversee the security services as in the United States. He urged us to be "somewhat chary" of "foreign models".

Foreign models? Mr Hurd did right to warn politicians against talking to such temptresses. For a Tory security scandal, all this case has lacked is sex.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Duke of Edinburgh, Trustee, attends a Trustees' meeting and lunch to mark the launch of the Museum's Development Fund at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, SE10. 10; and

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester visits HMS Walrus at the Pool of London, 3.30.

presents the 1986 Binney Memorial Awards and unveils a plaque in memory of Captain Ralph Biscoe, RN, at Goldsmiths' Hall, EC2, 5pm.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother visits the Royal College of Music, 3.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester visits HMS Walrus at the Pool of London, 3.30.

The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, visits Integrated Power Semi-Conductors Limited, Livingston, 11; and Victoria Mans Engineering Division, Edinburgh, 12.45; then Ballynety Sports Wear Company Limited, Bonyrigg, 3.10.

Prince Michael of Kent, as President of the Royal Automobile Club, attends a meeting of the RAC British Motor Sports Council, preceded by a luncheon, at the Belgavia Sheraton Hotel, 12.30.

Princess Alexandra, Chancellor, presides at a congregation for the conferral of Higher and Honorary Degrees at Lancaster University, 12.45.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attend a reception to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Wellcome Trust at the Wellcome Building, Euston Road, 6.30.

The Prince of Wales, President of the Royal Jubilee Trusts, attends a meeting of the Administrative Council at 8 Bedford Row, 10.15; and opens Phase One of Brunel University's Science Park at Uxbridge, Leathers, 3.30; Princess Anne, Chancellor of London University, opens the new research facilities at the Institute of Neurology, the National Hospital, Queen's Square, 10.30.

Last chance to see
Works by Helen Firth and Anne Lightwood, *The Open Eye Gallery*, 75 Cumberland Street, Edinburgh; 10 to 12.

Music
Luncheon concert by the Delme String Quartet, St George's Music Trust, Brandon Hill, Bristol, 1.

Harp recital by Imogen Barford and Mary Harris; Memorial Chapel, Exeter University, Exeter, 11.15.

University Madrigal Choir conducted by Isabel Woods; King's Hall, Newcastle University, 1.10.

New London Consort; Bedford School, Bedford, 7.45.

Anniversaries
Births: John Cotton, Puritan leader in New England, Derby, 1585; Thomas Carlyle, Ecclefechan, Dumfriesshire, 1795; Samuel Butler, author of *The Holy Grail*, 1835; Rainer Maria Rilke, poet, Prague, 1875.

Deaths: Cardinal Richelieu, Chief Minister to Louis XIII of France, Paris, 1642; Thomas Hobbes, philosopher, Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire, 1679; John Gay, poet and author of *The Beggar's Opera*, London, 1732; Robert Banks Jenkinson, 2nd Earl of Liverpool, Prime Minister 1812-27, London, 1828; Stefan George, poet, Mioscio, Switzerland, 1933; Thomas Morgan, geneticist, Pasadena, California, 1945; Benjamin Britten, Baron Britten, Aldeburgh, 1976.

The Observer was first published, 1791; William Pitt introduced income tax, 1798.

Books — paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week

FICTION
Collected Stories, by Maurice Gee (Penguin, £3.95)
Dora Fior and Her Two Husbands, by Jorge Amado, translated by Harriet de Onis (Serpent's Tail, £3.95)
New Men Who Laughed, by Austin Clarke (Penguin, £3.95)
The Big Man, by William McEwan (Sceptre, £3.50)
The Wrong People, by Robin Maughan (GMP, £3.95)
NON-FICTION
Arthur Schopenhauer, by Arthur Jacobs (Oxford, £5.95)
Days and Nights in Calcutta, by Clark Baise and Bharati Mukherjee (Penguin, £3.95)
Fang Jacobson City Chronicles, edited with an introduction and notes by Gabriel Salvendy (Penguin Classics, £4.95)
Rudyard Kipling, His Life and Work, by Charles Carrington (Penguin, £4.95)
Six Months in Hawaii, by Isabella Bird (KPI, £7.95)

The Halifax House Price Index

Index	ALL HOUSES		NEW HOUSES	
	Average price £	Annual change %	Average price £	Annual change %
1983	100.0	30998	100.0	34795
1984	107.2	32552	7.2	106.9
1985	117.0	35156	9.1	115.4
1985 quarter 1	117.5	32878	7.7	118.4
quarter 2	120.7	34407	8.7	118.9
quarter 3	128.6	38286	11.0	125.9
quarter 4	131.1	40475	13.2	129.5
1986	120.5	34399	9.2	110.7
January	122.5	35156	9.7	122.1
February	122.3	34841	0.3	119.8
March	124.0	36934	9.7	122.5
April	128.7	40223	13.5	130.7
May	128.4	37800	11.0	125.4
June	130.8	38453	12.1	127.5
July	132.3	40280	11.8	128.3
August	135.1	42923	19.5	142.0
September	134.1	40427	12.8	129.8
October	138.1	41554	13.6	131.4
November	136.9	40173	13.8	132.5

Source: Halifax Building Society

The pound

Country	Bank	Bank
Australia	2.45	2.45
Austria	2.05	2.15
Belgium	2.05	2.15
Denmark	1.15	1.15
France	6.55	6.55
Germany	2.36	2.79
Greece	253.00	215.00
Italy	1.98	1.98
Japan	167.11	167.25
Netherlands	3.20	3.15
Portugal	201.90	202.80
Spain	167.11	167.25
Sweden	10.25	0.70
Switzerland	2.45	2.35
USA	1.48	1.42
Yugoslavia	620.00	750.00

Retail Price Index: 388.4
Retail Price Index closed 9.3 down at 128.1.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Advance Petroleum Revenue Tax Bill, remaining stages.

Lords (3): Recognition of Trusts Bill, Ministry of Defence Police Bill, and Broadcasting Bill, second readings. Debate on proposed oil pipeline through the New Forest.

Our address

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to the Editor, The Times, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London, W1 0CV.

Portfolio Gold

Portfolio — how to play
Investment — how to play
The weekly Portfolio Gold is published weekly, designed for you who have an interest in the gold market. It is a guide for that week, and must claim your attention. It is published below.

Telephone The Times Portfolio editors on 020-2527 between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm. We will give you a free trial copy. No charge for the sample copy. We will be happy to send you a copy if you are unable to telephone. We will be happy to send you a copy if you are unable to telephone. We will be happy to send you a copy if you are unable to telephone.

WEATHER

A mild south-westerly airflow will persist over much of the country, but rather colder air will gradually encroach into northern and western areas as a cold front moves erratically south-eastwards. Southern Britain will stay mostly dry and mild with a lot of cloud. Over North Wales, northern England, Northern Ireland and southern and western Scotland outbreaks of rain are likely and may be heavy in the W. Much of NE Scotland will be dry and bright. Many areas will be windy. Outlook for Friday and Saturday: Some rain spreading to the S and E during Friday, then brighter and rather colder with some showers, chiefly in the N and W.

HIGH TIDES

Location	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.07	7.1	5.29	7.4
Avonmouth	2.42	4.4	4.05	4.2
Southampton	12.01	3.5	12.25	3.9
Cardiff	9.55	12.1	10.00	11.8
Devonport	7.28	5.9	6.01	5.3
Dover	12.12	6.7	12.34	6.8
London	1.58	3.4	1.21	2.0
Glasgow	2.00	4.9	2.18	3.1
Cardiff	11.58	3.9	11.30	4.0
Hull	7.49	7.4	6.02	7.4
London	2.22	4.4	1.51	2.1
Leith	7.20	4.0	4.10	4.3
Liverpool	12.24	8.5	12.45	8.5
Newcastle	11.55	3.2	11.55	3.2
Manchester	1.12	4.8	1.37	5.0
Mersey	7.45	7.2	6.12	6.9
Northfleet	11.58	12.19	11.19	11.5
Oban	7.08	4.2	7.31	3.8
Pennance	6.29	5.7	7.04	5.4
Portsmouth	12.43	6.7	12.43	6.7
Sharncliffe	12.28	6.2	12.43	6.2
Southampton	11.55	12.19	11.19	11.5
Swansea	7.48	0.7	8.13	0.4
Tees	5.08	5.5	5.30	5.6
Tide measured in metres: 1.21-2.12				

AROUND BRITAIN

Location	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
Scarborough	1.7	11	52	bright	
London	0.4	10	50	cloudy	
Cardiff	1.7	11	52	bright	
Belfast	2.9	11	52	bright	
Edinburgh	2.7	12	56	sunny	
Birmingham	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Manchester	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Sheffield	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Nottingham	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Leeds	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Coventry	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Sheff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Cardiff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Belfast	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Edinburgh	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Birmingham	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Manchester	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Sheffield	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Nottingham	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Leeds	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Coventry	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Sheff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Cardiff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Belfast	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Edinburgh	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Birmingham	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Manchester	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Sheffield	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Nottingham	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Leeds	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Coventry	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Sheff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Cardiff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Belfast	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Edinburgh	3.4	11	52	sunny	
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Sheffield	3.4	11	52	sunny	
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Cardiff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Belfast	3.4	11	52	sunny	
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Cardiff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Belfast	3.4	11	52	sunny	
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Leeds	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Coventry	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Sheff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Cardiff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Belfast	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Edinburgh	3.4	11	52	sunny	
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Manchester	3.4	11	52	sunny	
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Nottingham	3.4	11	52	sunny	
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Sheff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Cardiff	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Belfast	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Edinburgh	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Birmingham	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Manchester	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Sheffield	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Nottingham	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Leeds	3.4	11	52	sunny	
Coventry					

AE: a company at bay

How engineering group AE tried to repel a £270m hostile bid from Turner & Newall, found an unlikely white knight in Robert Maxwell ... and now awaits its fate

One of the longest and most bitter takeover battles draws to a climax tomorrow with the close of the £270 million offer by Turner & Newall, the asbestos group, for AE, the engineering company.

As it does, the curtain will come down on an extraordinary saga which has had all the ingredients of a best-selling corporate thriller.

The struggle for control of an unfashionable engineering business has besmirched the reputation of a leading merchant bank and stockbroking firm and generated the worst scandal of insider dealing to hit the City.

The conclusion will be a nail-biting affair. Turner & Newall believes it has enough backing from City institutions to lift its present stake in AE from 42 per cent to over the crucial 50 per cent level.

But the tug-of-war for AE has also heralded the arrival of publisher Mr Robert Maxwell's Hollis Group which has now inched its way to a 29 per cent holding.

There was certainly little hint of the dramatic developments to come when, in June, Turner & Newall, under the chairmanship of Sir Francis Tombs, launched a hostile £196 million bid for AE.

It was in itself a remarkable step for Turner & Newall which had only just recovered from a position of near collapse. The share price had plunged as it faced mounting claims from the victims of asbestosis.

It was keen to reduce its dependence on mining and its reliance on earnings from



Tombs (left) and Maxwell: engineering a nail-biting tug-of-war

Africa and India and saw a tie-up with AE — both companies had motor component divisions — as a way out of its difficulties.

AE fought back fiercely. It claimed it was doing all right on its own — a change from the weakened state it had been in during 1983 when it agreed to

a bid from GKN only to have the merger blocked by the Monopolies Commission.

The market scented blood and the possibilities of an auction for AE. Turner & Newall said the acquisition would help to make AE more competitive in world markets.

Sir John Collyear, chairman of AE, poured scorn on the asbestos group, describing it as a company "beset by inherent and serious problems."

After the ritualistic abuse Turner & Newall fired in a blockbuster final "take it or leave it" offer worth £247 million.

"A desperate last move," retorted AE.

But despite the fighting talk from the two knights, the stock market thought that Turner & Newall stood a good chance of success. But on September 12 when the offer closed it emerged that Turner & Newall had come within a whisker of victory — with 49 per cent.

After stripping out acceptances Turner & Newall was left owning 29 per cent of AE. Its failure appeared to support the view of Sir John Collyear that City institutions were at least prepared to stand by managements in defending companies.

But just as hostilities appeared to cease, so there was an immediate counterblast from Turner & Newall. They complained to the Takeover Panel that a crucial block of shares in AE had been bought by its own supporters just

before the close of the bid. As soon as the bid lapsed these shares were sold at a considerable loss — because AE shares not unexpectedly fell after the Turner & Newall offer failed.

After an inquiry lasting a month the Takeover Panel cried foul. It allowed Turner & Newall to launch a new bid and censured AE's merchant bank advisers, Hill Samuel, and the blue-blooded stockbroking firm, Cazenove, for their tactics during the battle.

Turner & Newall then bounced back, with a cash and shares offer, claiming support from unnamed parties who could deliver a further 14 per cent to add to the near 30 per cent it held already.

Mr Maxwell later raised the value of his cash offer to 280p and with share buying has now bumped this up to the 29 per cent level.

As the struggle intensified in the City there was another astonishing twist to the affair. Mr Geoffrey Collier was forced to resign from Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, as allegations of insider dealing in AE shares swept the City. He has been charged with offences connected with trading in AE shares.

The stage is now set for a grandstand finale. If Turner & Newall fails to get past the 50 per cent level when acceptances are announced tomorrow Mr Maxwell and his Hollis Group, whose offer still has some time to run, will have victory in its grasp.

Cliff Feltham

T&N 'beset by inherent and serious problems'

AE's Sir John Collyear on the hostile bid

Hill Samuel criticized for failing to disclose arrangements with its own investment management department and two clearing banks to indemnify them against losses arising if they did not accept the bid.

And it hit at Cazenove for failing to disclose purchases by Midland Bank, AE's principal banker, under the arrangement. It was the hardest hitting criticism of a group of City institutions in living memory coming just as Big Bang erupted.

Less than a week later Robert Maxwell through Hollis, a subsidiary of Pergamon, his master company — emerged as the white knight and announced a £266 million agreed bid for the company.

As one analyst put it: "AE complained about lack of industrial logic getting into bed with Turner & Newall. Quite why they are prepared to get together with Mr Maxwell is beyond me."

Mr Maxwell claimed that he wanted to build a group based on science and high technology. He said that Hollis had been looking to acquire specialist engineering companies but it lacked the necessary quality of management to run such an enterprise.

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T&N 'beset by inherent and serious problems'

AE's Sir John Collyear on the hostile bid

ECONOMIC VIEW

Public spending ensnared in the pay bill warren

Increases in pay between 1980 and 1986

Constable (max).....	+86%
Nursing sister.....	+58%
Teacher (grade 1).....	+69%
Civil servant.....	+40%

Although the teachers pay dispute is still not over one thing is clear: settlement is not going to be cheap. As the other unions in the public sector draw up their demands they will be well aware that the teachers have been offered 16.4 per cent. Many of them may be tempted to base their claims on the simple premise of "me too".

A surge in public sector pay would put new pressure on public spending next year. In extremis, this could force the Government to increase the provision for spending on certain programmes. More likely, either the danger of an overrun on the recently increased figures for next year will be raised, or more of the available funds will be pre-empted by pay, leaving less for politically appealing improvements in services.

Spending in the hospital service, for instance, is planned to rise next year by about 6 per cent in cash terms. That has to cover real improvements in services, the increase in demand from a growing number of elderly people in the population and higher equipment prices as well as increases in wages and salaries.

Improvements in efficiency will yield some extra cash. But any increase in the pay bill above 4 per cent is not likely to leave much to meet the increase in demand. Of course better paid, and therefore presumably better motivated, nurses and doctors represent a real improvement in the health service.

But that is not what most people mean by spending more on health.

Fixing pay levels in the public sector has long been a problem without a solution. Governments have tended to either like rabbits caught in the twin headlights of public spending scrutiny and concern for the effects of lengthy strikes in public services.

The effect of this combination of economic and political pressures over the years has been to establish a warren of different methods of resolving public-sector pay problems. In the public services, that is excluding the nationalized industries and other trading bodies, there are at least four distinct models.

● **Collective bargaining:** This is the basic model covering the civil service, NHS ancillaries and technicians, and many local authority employees.

The large increases handed out by the Clegg Committee in 1980 confirmed the Government's determination to move away from the formal system of pay research and comparability with the private sector for the civil service back to a simple system of collective bargaining, which is the closest approach to allowing market forces to set pay levels.

Apart from the dispute in the NHS in 1982, which led to

is to distance the Government from the business of setting pay rates for groups of workers with a high degree of public sympathy, and to give people who either cannot or do not strike some confidence that their pay will not lag behind.

The reviews try to take account of market factors like affordability, and recruitment and retention pressures.

● **Indexation:** Still more removed from the pressures of the labour market are two groups of public servants who enjoy automatic indexation of their pay, the police and the firemen. Police pay is kept in line with the underlying change in average earnings in the economy as a result of the Edmund Davies report in 1978.

In theory the Home Secretary can override the formula but in practice there is an informal concordat between the Government, the local authority employers and the Police Federation to apply the formula. The arrangement comes up for review next September. The firemen owe their privileged position to the strike of 1977, which was resolved by promising them a fixed position in the male, manual earnings league.

The strong element of comparability in setting pay scales, which continues in much of the public sector, will make it more difficult to resist the knock-on effects of whatever deal is finally agreed with the teachers.

The review bodies are beginning their work now for completion in April and will be under pressure to take the settlement into account when they make their recommendations.

For economic efficiency the best buy in pay bargaining systems must be the one which gives market forces the most free play. Although collective bargaining does not prevent leap-frogging and may be uncomfortable it is nevertheless the process most likely to balance demand for high quality public servants with available supply at the proper price.

Recent history suggests that the more the Government interferes with collective bargaining for political reasons the more it ends up paying over the odds.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

Review bodies. The review bodies are non-statutory, independent bodies which advise the ministers concerned on appropriate settlements after taking evidence from Government and unions.

The advisory committee differs from a review body in being subject to direction from the Education Secretary as to the total cost of any award. It is also explicitly temporary.

Ministers are not obliged to accept their recommendations but in practice it is difficult to ignore their advice. Interference with the recommended settlements is usually limited to phasing in the awards.

The exception is top salaries where the politics usually operate in the reverse direction favouring cuts in the award. There are four review bodies covering about one million people: nurses, doctors and dentists, the armed forces and top salaries, judges, generals and senior civil servants.

The purpose of these bodies

Buy or sell shares in
BRITISH GAS plc
Free of commission through
PRIOR HARWIN
SECURITIES LIMITED
(Licensed Dealer in Securities and member of FIMBRA)
01-920 0652
Note this number for future reference
65 LONDON WALL, LONDON, EC2M 5TU

PRELIMINARY RESULTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR TO 30th AUGUST 1986.

	1986	1985	Increase
Turnover	£273.7m	£265.5m	33%
Profit before taxation	£70.4m	£61.1m	15%
Profit after taxation	£61.2m	£50.5m	21%
Earnings per share - basic	56.3p	52.0p	7%
Total net dividend per share	6.75p	5.25p	29%

EXTRACTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The year was another year of significant achievement, with continued expansion and consolidation of the Agriculture, Food and Related Industries Division, which contributed £45 million to profit on ordinary activities before taxation on turnover of £191.5 million. Further expansion of packing and packaging facilities in Turkey and Northern Cyprus enabled an increased volume and range of products to be handled whilst high quality standards were maintained. Margins remained strong in all markets but showed a small overall reduction due to sales mix and the continued drive for penetration into European markets.

The Consumer Electronics Division had a very successful year with pre-tax profit rising to £4.1 million and sales almost doubling to £47.6 million. CTVs remained Vestel's major product in terms of volume, while Vestel's strong market position was firmly consolidated in audio equipment and video recorders/players. New product ranges introduced included home computer, hi-fi and compact disc playing equipment and further extensions are planned.

The Textile Division recorded turnover of £74.6 million and profit on ordinary activities before taxation of £1.3 million. Despite market weaknesses in certain areas, considerable strides were made both during the year and subsequently with the expansion of the Division's presence in USA and Hong Kong by internal growth and acquisition. The Division now holds a significant position in the US and European markets and plans to develop these further.

Plans for the construction of a 5-star tourist hotel at Antalya in Southern Turkey have been finalised and the Group is to participate in a venture for the distribution of L'Oréal toiletries and cosmetics in Turkey.

Business during the current year has opened well. The balance of the Group's activities. Following the scope and Adam project in Turkey, Group resources will increasingly be channelled into selective expansion in the UK, Europe and the Far East. As an indication of its confidence in the future, the Board has decided to recommend a scrip issue of 1 new ordinary share for every 5 held.

Copies of the full Chairman's statement may be obtained from the Secretary, Polly Peck International PLC, 81-91 Commercial Road, London E1 1RD.

TATE + LYLE

Record profits in an eventful year

Chairman and Chief Executive, Neil Shaw, reports:

■ Eighth successive year of profit growth.

■ Monopolies Commission decision on bid for S. & W. Berisford/British Sugar is expected shortly.

■ EEC Commission is reviewing European cane refining costs and margins.

■ New calorie-free sweetener "sucralose" goes to government authorities for approval.

■ Profitable first year for Western Sugar Company. Two additional beet plants acquired.

■ Continuing acquisitions and expansion in automotive parts division in North America.

■ New packing machinery for UK refineries. Associated costs of rationalisation taken as an extraordinary loss.

■ Prospects are both challenging and exciting.

THE YEAR IN BRIEF











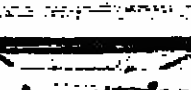
	1986	1985
Turnover	£1,645m	£1,627m
Profit before tax	£81.5m	£76.7m
Profit after tax attributable to shareholders*	£39.7m	£38.1m
Earnings per share	57.3p	55.3p
Dividends per share	23.0p	22.0p
Dividend cover	2.5 times	2.5 times

*Before extraordinary loss of £12.0m (1985: £11.6m)
Preliminary announcement of results for the period ended 27th September 1986.

Copies of the Annual Report for the period ended 27th September 1986 will be mailed to shareholders shortly and will be available from:
C.P. McFie, Secretary, Tate & Lyle PLC, Sugar Quay, Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 8DQ.

POLLY PECK INTERNATIONAL PLC

LONDON, TURKEY, NORTHERN CYPRUS, HONG KONG, NEW YORK

PRELIMINARY RESULTS
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سكوتيا المالية

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table with columns: First Dealings, Last Dealings, Last Declaration, For Settlement. Rows include Dec 17, Dec 15, Dec 12, Dec 11, Dec 10, Dec 9, Dec 8, Dec 7, Dec 6, Dec 5, Dec 4, Dec 3, Dec 2, Dec 1.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table with columns: Three Month Sterling, Three Month Eurodollar, US Treasury Bond, Short Gilt, Long Gilt, FT-SE 100. Rows include Dec 15, Dec 14, Dec 13, Dec 12, Dec 11, Dec 10, Dec 9, Dec 8, Dec 7, Dec 6, Dec 5, Dec 4, Dec 3, Dec 2, Dec 1.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table with columns: Series, Calls, Puts, Series, Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec. Rows include Allied Lyons, BP, Cons Gold, Courtauld, Com Union, Cable & Wire, GEC, Grand Met, ICI, Land Sec, Marks & Spen, Shell Trans, Trafalgar House, TSB, Beecham, Boots, BTR, Bass, Blue Circle, De Beers, Dixons, OIK, Glaxo, Hanson.

31 British companies win Nissan contracts

By David Young

New contracts have been placed to supply components for the Nissan cars produced in Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, which means that more than 50 per cent of the cars will be sourced from Britain within a year of production starting. The company, which started production in September, has placed contracts with 31 British companies and four companies in other European Economic Community member-countries for parts which will be introduced progressively to the Bluebird range this year and next. By 1988, the cars will be considered to be British built, with 60 per cent of their content produced locally. By 1991, that level will reach 80 per cent. At present, the plant is producing 24,000 cars a year, which will rise to 100,000 by 1991.

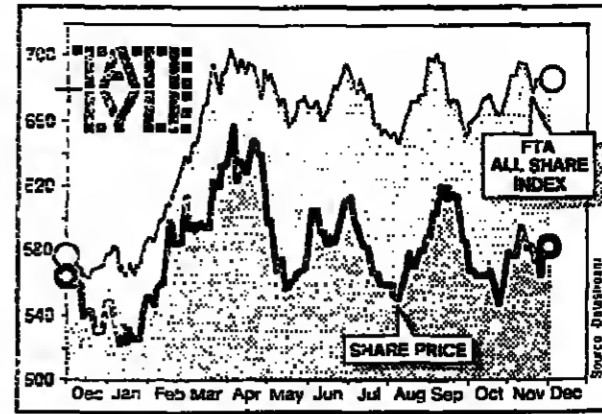
In brief

LEEDS GROUP: A final dividend of 4p has been declared, making 6.25p for the year (5.21p adjusted), on increased share capital for the year ended September 30. With figures to £1,000, turnover amounted to 14,157 (14,455), trading surplus 2,791 (2,436), depreciation 417 (431), profit before tax 2,374 (2,005) and tax 902 (859). Earnings per share were 19.7p (15.3p). During the year a further £1 million has been added to the company's strong cash position. This enables the acquisition of Walden and a number of new capital investment projects to be financed without recourse to borrowing. The group says it expects to benefit on balance from the lower value of sterling and this year has opened with some promise in several areas. The shares were 195p, up 4p.

COALITE GROUP: Results for the six months to September 30 include an interim dividend of 2.25p (2p) and, with figures in £000, turnover was 182,470 (209,753), operating profit after depreciation 3,204 (3,311), interest and similar income receivable 4,438 (3,520). Profit before tax amounted to 14,408 (13,241) and tax totalled 5,181 (5,561). Earnings per share were 10.73p (8.93p). The board says the most significant feature of the year so far is the acquisition of the Hargreaves Group which provides the company with a firm basis for expansion and growth. The senior management of Coalite and Hargreaves are working together to bring about a successful integration of the combined company. The results from Hargreaves were consolidated from November 1. The company says it is expecting a satisfactory outcome for the year as a whole, subject to the usual hazards of the winter weather and consumer demand.

Tate seeks a sweeter success

TEMPUS



The most important item on the Tate & Lyle corporate agenda is the impending report from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the fate of the British Sugar Corporation.

All eyes are therefore focused more on Westminster than on the company to see if perhaps Tate & Lyle will be allowed to bid for the prize it thought it could never have.

Yesterday's preliminary results, however, were more than just a minor diversion. They show that many of the areas Tate & Lyle is involved in are going in the right direction and that it has diversified to the point that it can withstand a crippling sugar price war without being brought to its knees.

British Sugar's efforts to win market share for its low cost beet production in Britain reduced Tate's sugar refining profits, where the high cost of cane puts it at a competitive disadvantage, from £12.3 million to £3.1 million in the year to September 27.

A turnaround in sugar trading, an excellent result from the American sugar operation and improvements elsewhere more than offset this, however, and the group increased pretax profits by 6 per cent to £81.5 million.

In 1987, the sugar refining profit in Britain will improve significantly. British Sugar has given up the fight for market share and is concentrating on profits again. And in the US, acquisitions will boost Tate's sugar earnings.

In the longer term, Tate & Lyle has its own low calorie sweetener, Sucralose, which it has been developing for the last eight years. It should soon be in a position to submit it to government agencies for approval, but it is unlikely to contribute to profits until late 1988.

Tate should make about £95 million pretax this year,

implying a prospective multiple of 8.2. The shares are standing at a hefty 25 per cent discount to the market.

If Tate were to succeed in buying British Sugar, it would be very good news indeed. But if it failed, it would not be the end of the world for Tate & Lyle. The discount looks undeserved.

Smith & Nephew

Strong consumer brands like Nivea, good growth in personal hygiene products and high margins from its medical and health care products allow the smooth and steady upward progression of Smith & Nephew Associated Companies profits to continue. At the third quarter stage, the company reported pretax profit up 22.8 per cent to £58.2 million for the 40 weeks to October 4.

Earnings, however, are not growing quite so fast, up just 18.8 per cent to 4.68p.

The fly in the ointment is, it concerns the £192.7 million acquisition of Richards Medical, the US company, last August for a mixture of cash and shares. This will dilute earnings for the next year at least, while there will be a higher tax charge in the United States.

All the Smith & Nephew traditional strengths remain, however, and Jeonifer McGregor, pharmaceuticals

analyst at Wood Mackenzie, the stockbroker, is looking for £87 million pretax for the full year.

The shares, always highly rated, may look a touch expensive on a 17.4 multiple, especially since the market is still absorbing stock from the Richards acquisition.

Northern Foods

The recent EEC pronouncement that the Milk Marketing Board was breaking the rules with its differential pricing policy has cast a dark cloud over companies with commercial dairy interests. However, Northern Foods is not unduly gloomy.

It is not heavily involved in the processing of milk for butter or hard cheese, the market segments particularly affected by the European Commission's ruling. Moreover, it believes that its emphasis on high quality products such as liquid milk and cream places it in a strong buying position which would be enhanced if the board were to be disbanded.

The conclusion of this issue is some way off, but nervousness on the subject

should keep predators at bay. Mrs Edwina Curry would not be overly impressed with Northern Foods' portfolio of products but people appear to be prepared to commit themselves only so far to healthy eating.

The trend towards consumption of low-fat milk is slowing. At Northern Foods it accounts for 15 per cent of liquid milk sales — a few percentage points below average. Margins are no lower than on normal milk.

However, the market is now flooded with cream. Lower prices have stimulated demand which is up by 7 per cent but has affected margins. However, although people are eating less butter it appears they are eating more cream. Northern Foods sales of cream-topped trifles to Marks and Spencer have, for instance, increased by 40 per cent.

Biscuits and meat products are also doing well. The Classic biscuit has been well received.

Acquisitions in Britain will be hard to find since there are others around equally keen to pick up good opportunities. Avana remains a taboo subject although there is a clear synergy. However, with gearing set to be under 20 per cent by the year end, there is scope to do something big.

Northern Foods is keen to keep some exposure to the US although the market is unlikely to encourage it to do anything dramatic.

The group still commands the City's respect. On a forecast of £75 million the shares are on a p/e ratio of 11.9 which seems fair enough. However, a combination of mishaps in the last few years has left a nasty taste in the mouth. The direction the group plans to move in will need to be more apparent or else its position as a blue chip may be in jeopardy.

Financial data sidebar including EURO MONEY DEPOSITS, GOLD, ECSD, RATES, DOLLAR SPOT RATE, IGX EXCHANGE, MARKET RATES, and SUES.

Advertisement for Griffin Factors. Text: 'NOT EVERY COMPANY WILL BENEFIT FROM FACTORING... NOW YOU CAN DISCOVER IF YOURS WILL'. Includes a coupon for a 'FREE CASH MANAGEMENT GUIDE FOR GROWING BUSINESSES' and contact information for Griffin Factors Limited.

Advertisement for BTR. Text: 'OUR RESULTS PROVE WE HAVE MORE THAN A NOSE FOR BUSINESS'. Includes an illustration of a nose and contact information for BTR PLC.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares remain nervous

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on November 24. Dealings end Friday. £Contango day next Monday. Settlement day December 15. \$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E ratio are calculated on the middle price

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with 3 columns: No., Company, Group. Lists various companies like Joseph (Lapland), Carlton Comm, BOC, Allied Irish, etc.

Please take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Weekly Total.

BRITISH FUNDS

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Stock, Price, Change. Lists various funds like 100% 85% Each, 100% 85% Each, etc.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Stock, Price, Change. Lists various funds like 100% 85% Each, 100% 85% Each, etc.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Stock, Price, Change. Lists various funds like 100% 85% Each, 100% 85% Each, etc.

UNDATED

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Stock, Price, Change. Lists various funds like 100% 85% Each, 100% 85% Each, etc.

INDEX-LINKED

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Stock, Price, Change. Lists various funds like 100% 85% Each, 100% 85% Each, etc.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Stock, Price, Change. Lists various banks like Allied Irish, Bank of Ireland, etc.

BREWERIES

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various breweries like Asahi Breweries, Beck's, etc.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various building and road companies like Abey, Amey, etc.

FINANCE AND LAND

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various finance and land companies like Abn-Amro, Abn-Amro, etc.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various chemical and plastic companies like ACD, ACD, etc.

CINEMAS AND TV

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various cinema and TV companies like Anglo TV, Anglo TV, etc.

DRAPERY AND STORES

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various drapery and store companies like Asda, Asda, etc.

ELECTRICALS

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various electrical companies like AB, AB, etc.

INSURANCE

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various insurance companies like Abn-Amro, Abn-Amro, etc.

E-K

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various companies in the E-K sector.

FINANCE AND LAND

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various finance and land companies.

FOODS

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various food companies like ASDA, ASDA, etc.

L-R

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various companies in the L-R sector.

HOTELS AND CATERERS

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various hotel and caterer companies.

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various industrial companies in the A-D range.

INSURANCE

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various insurance companies.

E-K

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Portfolio Gold

Claims required for +32 points

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various companies.

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various overseas trader companies.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various paper, printing, and advertising companies.

PROPERTY

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various property companies.

MINING

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various mining companies.

SHIPPING

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various shipping companies.

SHOES AND LEATHER

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various shoes and leather companies.

TEXTILES

Table with 3 columns: High/Low Company, Price, Change. Lists various textile companies.

Vertical text on the left margin, likely containing additional market news or advertisements.

Small text at the bottom right corner, likely a disclaimer or note regarding the data.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

December 4, 1986

Over 45 and in the job market? For many in that position self-employment may be the way forward — and it can be a hidden boon and blessing all round for British business. If only this is recognized!

Two recent analyses throw up an interesting picture. These are an Institute of Manpower Studies survey of 450 businesses, and the Labour Force Surveys (LFS) 1981, 1983 and 1984, analysed by the Employment Market Research Unit of the Department of Employment.

They show that 50 per cent of companies surveyed are seeking temporaries with high-level skills in specialist fields (accountancy, computing, marketing and technical) in which demand is growing, that of the 2.6 million self-employed 75 per cent are men and growing, and that activity in construction, distribution, repairs, hotels and catering accounts for half of all self-employment.

That is the broad picture. My specific area of interest is that of the "senior management" types.

Right now "outplacement" agencies — organizations that help senior executives come to terms with the fact that their employer no longer needs them and help them in the process of gaining new employment — are probably at their busiest ever.

Companies want temporaries with specialist skills. These, Tom Pointon argues, can come from the over-45s



Personal observation and experience suggest that getting a job for the senior management executive who is over 45 can often be a long and dispiriting exercise, with the chances of success diminishing rapidly the older you become. And it is the over-45 senior management group that British business increasingly selects for banishment and cannot really reabsorb.

It seems to me that a point is reached where business, both industry and commerce, has so decimated itself with respect to the over-45 age group that it has lost, possibly for ever, knowledge, contacts, learning, skills and so on that are irreplaceable. Displacement of senior management is too often a one-off event, usually with no planning possible, or intended, with respect to succession or orderly transfer of know-how to younger people. A vacuum is created.

The kind of know-how I mean is not just technical, but all the accumulated wisdom and capabilities that maturity, in the best sense, brings about in the able, energetic and achievement-oriented senior manager.

Intuitively — there are no statistics — I have the feeling that the point has just about been reached where British business has so decimated itself that "corporate memory and sensitivity" are lack-

● The comparatively long period of political and economic stability in the UK which has increased the willingness of organizations to invest.

● A growing willingness of organizations to seek external help, particularly in specialist skill areas.

● External influences of major proportions, causing some organizations to adjust their strategies, organization and systems to new conditions (for example, the Big Bang in the City, advent of new technology and manufacturing techniques).

Skills and services in demand include: management accounting, information systems, telecommunications, software programming, management sciences, human resources, executive selection and search, marketing, economics, transportation, operations management and so on.

Take public relations. *Financial Weekly* has reported that the number of such consultancies that breached the £100,000 fee income barrier grew in the past year from 86 to 114, a 67 per cent increase.

Now all this relates, one way and another, to the kind of skills that the over-45 senior management executive possesses in plenty.

Growth in the economy overall is there but not as extensive as one could imagine as being necessary

to cause the change and expansion described. There is fundamental structural change. There is a clear lack of internal resource and a need for outside expertise that is demonstrable. Expertise just has to come from outside the organization.

Let us look at things yet another way. The area of information technology is cited by the Institute of Manpower Studies as possibly growing by a quarter by the end of this decade — it is presently 200,000-strong, its professionals being described as one-third having electronic-based skills and the rest computer-based skills. Some over-45s will undoubtedly have expertise that can be applied to this growth area.

So far I have demonstrated that there is real need and that this can be met from outside the organization, appropriately by many over-45s.

What do the over-45s offer? In brief summary one can see:

FIRST, the over-45s have clout — the skills, contacts, experience and confidence mix to advise and assist at top level, acquired only after many years of wide, varied and in-depth experience.

SECOND, over-45s are viable people, usually having the capital necessary to set up office and support themselves financially through the early period.

THIRD, the client organization

buys and benefits from indispensable expertise of a very high order, without upsetting its existing organization, pay scales and staff.

FOURTH, a temporary assignment can, if the need is present and both sides are agreeable, lead to a long-term association either in terms of consultancy, non-executive directorships or full-time employment.

FIFTH, over-45s, being independent, are not tied full-time to a demanding and restrictive employer and can give full whack to different roles and tasks and achieve greater personal satisfaction.

SIXTH, the over-45s can bring real objectivity to bear, avoiding tunnel vision and not having to make trade-offs with colleagues within the organization.

These are, of course, generalizations and are most certainly not exhaustive. They do add up to a powerful argument for the use of over-45s by business which is often these days at full stretch and cannot spend time and effort thinking through its problems and then implementing the necessary change.

Dr Tom Pointon, who is 55, is managing partner of the Pointon Partnership, advising and assisting in strategic management and corporate public affairs

APPOINTMENTS PHONE: 01-481 4481 - APPOINTMENTS PHONE: 01-481 4481

Director

PROUDMAN OCEANOGRAPHIC LABORATORY BIDSTON OBSERVATORY

up to £27,065

The Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory at the Bidston Observatory, formerly a component of the Institute of Oceanographic Sciences, will be established as an independent laboratory within the NERC Marine Sciences Directorate from April 1987. The Director of the Laboratory will be responsible to the Director Marine Sciences for the leadership of the scientific programmes based at the Laboratory and for the management, scientific quality and productivity of the 70 staff based there.

The programme of research at the Laboratory will initially follow that presently undertaken with the emphasis on Tides and Sea Level and Physics of Shelf Seas and their margins, including aspects of the NERC component of the UK North Sea Project.

The Director will represent the Laboratory and where appropriate NERC, to outside bodies, including government departments and commercial customers to enhance the impact of the science and the ability of the Laboratory to attract financial support. He/she will also consolidate and increase scientific links with Universities and other relevant bodies, and liaise with other parts of the Marine Sciences Directorate and of NERC.

The Director will be a Marine Physicist of international standing capable of furthering the Laboratory's reputation as a centre of excellence in oceanographic research.

The appointment is pensionable under the NERC super-annuation scheme. Terms and conditions are similar to those in the British Civil Service.

Application forms may be obtained from Mr W Hall at the address given below or by telephoning (0793) 40101 extn. 423. Completed applications, including a full CV should be sent to the Establishment Officer, Natural Environment Research Council, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, Wilts SN2 1EU, not later than 9 January 1987.

The Natural Environment Research Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer. All jobs in the UK are open to men and women of all ethnic groups and the Council also welcomes applications from disabled people.

Natural Environment Research Council

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ADVISOR

Our client is part of a major international group whose products include chemicals, pharmaceuticals, dyestuffs and agro chemicals. The company now needs to employ an environmental health and safety advisor to join a small but vital team (and then to succeed the present advisor when he retires).

The main requirements of the job will be to ensure that the company meets all aspects of UK and EEC legal obligations; to liaise with Government departments and industrial associations; to examine draft legislation concerning health and safety matters representing the company and advising management on developments and providing safety data on potentially harmful products.

The successful candidate will almost certainly be a graduate in chemistry or a related science and will have had experience at a senior level in the chemical/pharmaceutical industry. He/she will be able to demonstrate good inter-personal skills and have considerable experience of working with committees and management at all levels. The ability to speak German would be a distinct advantage.

The company offers a most attractive benefits package, including car, contributory pension, medical health and removal expenses if necessary. Location: Southern Home Counties.

Please send full career details, in complete confidence, to:

Nicholas Potter, quoting reference 270T,
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Applicants should be chartered surveyors with previous property management experience, preferably with a Class II user. In addition they should have the drive, inventiveness and commercial awareness to make a major contribution to the success of the group.

The excellent benefit package includes a negotiable salary in excess of £30,000, a performance-related bonus, an executive car, private health care, pension scheme and relocation assistance, where necessary.

Male or female applicants should send a full C.V., with a contact telephone number (quoting reference M1003) to: Don McIntosh, Strategic Recruitment Limited, Challenger House, 125 Gunnersbury Lane, London W3 8LH (01-893 6510).

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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To work in our Computer Services Group, we require a Senior Programmer with 2/3 years high level programming experience in an IBM VM/CMS environment.

We are developing our Business systems using a 4th Generation Language and On-line data base techniques. Experience in this type of development environment will be an added advantage.

Well educated applicants with ambition to gain some experience in Systems Analysis work are encouraged to apply.

Based in the centre of Crawley, we are prepared to offer relocation assistance, where appropriate, to the successful candidate.

Please apply in writing, stating your current salary, to David Bennett, at the address below.

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Woodall-Duckham House,
The Boulevard,
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Babcock

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We currently need to augment our project management team. Candidates with varying backgrounds should match the following profile:

- Experience in management of major capital projects, project feasibility studies and appraisal, project planning and networking, project control systems.
- Possess sound business analysis skills.
- Relevant degree and/or professional membership, possibly with post graduate qualifications in business related areas.
- Capacity to apply knowledge and experience to unfamiliar areas.
- Preferred age 26-35.

To successful candidates we offer a challenging and intellectual environment, a variety of stimulating assignments and excellent career progression opportunities. The initial remuneration level is negotiable together with company car to those appointed at Senior Consultant level.

If you are interested, send in confidence full personal and career details (quoting MCS/8709) to Delia Pegg, Price Waterhouse Management Consultants No.1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL

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Previous experience in service operations and/or health care management an advantage, but above all we are looking for someone with abundant energy, strong organisational ability and communication skills, and good commercial sense. Applicants must be sympathetic to women seeking termination of pregnancy.

Please write sending C.V. to:

Director of Clinic Services
Marie Stopes House
108 Whitfield Street
London W1P 6BE

Accountant

c. £16,000 p.a. Central London

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Accountants to fill a vacancy in the National Accounting Group at the Central Electricity Generating Board's Headquarters Finance Department.

The successful candidate will assist in the preparation of the Board's Accounts, which are presented on a current cost basis, and be responsible for corporation tax returns, as well as undertaking ad hoc investigations of an accounting nature.

Applicants should preferably have recent experience of Financial Accounts preparation in a large organisation, and be capable of working on their own initiative. A knowledge of programming using Lotus 123 would be an advantage.

Applications in writing only, giving full career details, including age, qualifications, experience and current salary should be sent to the Group Personnel Officer, Sudbury House, 15 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AU by 11 December 1986. Quote reference 373/86/CE/TT. It is intended to hold interviews for this post on 6 January 1987.

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GENERAL SECRETARY DESIGNATE

A General Secretary Designate is required for learned society of individually-elected members, covering the surface coatings industries (paint, printing ink and allied industries) at its modern headquarters in Wembley, Middlesex.

Duties involve the control of a small (mostly part-time) staff engaged on the Association's day work such as accounts, statutory returns, professional grade, co-ordinating the work of the Council and its Committees and implementing decisions, corresponding with legal advisers, members, Section Committees and other organisations in UK and abroad.

An Assistant Editor will report to the person appointed on all matters relating to Association publications.

Ideally candidates will have a working knowledge of data processing, as the Association intends to computerise its membership and Journal records early in 1987.

As the present chief executive officer will retire after the Association AGM and Conference in June 1987, it is hoped to make this new appointment as soon as possible.

The salary (with appropriate pension scheme) will be in accordance with age, experience and the responsibilities involved. The job is ideally suited to a person qualified as a member of a professional body such as the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators.

Candidates should submit full C.V. together with relevant experience and details of salary required in an envelope marked "PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL" to:

The President,
Oil & Colour Chemists' Association,
Priory House,
967 Harrow Road,
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Please write in confidence giving full details of experience to the Chairman, Tarex Berger & Associates Ltd, The Glanty, Egham, Surrey



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To apply you should be aged 24-28, qualified or finalist and have gained auditing experience with a medium or large firm of Chartered Accountants. A generous package is on offer with sponsorship for work permits etc and an allowance for relocation expenses.

To get the facts call Antony Dunlop on 01-439 6171. He has just returned from New York and can give you the inside information on this exciting opportunity.



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Negotiators who can show a clear record of selling services at board level are invited to talk to us. Experience of financial services would also be valuable, but demonstrable achievement in the selling of a service concept would override other considerations. Preferred locations are the Home Counties and the North of England.

For the best we offer the position of New Business Manager, and we expect to pay well and provide appropriate benefits. Opportunities to grow in management are real, once ability is demonstrated.

Applications will be treated in the strictest confidence and should be addressed to Mr. Dominic Suddaby, Director, The Export Finance Company Limited, Exfinco House, Sarford Street, Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 1QQ. Telephone 0793 616333.

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UK PHARMACEUTICALS AND HEALTH CARE

NEW VENTURE

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Formed four years ago, the organisation now comprises of over 130 people and repeat contracts are growing as new clients are being serviced. As a result of concept research, a new Company is to be formed to fill an identified need. This new organisation will be autonomous to Ethical Contact, reporting to the Group Board of Innovex Holdings Limited.

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The project manager, in addition to controlling field managers, will work closely with Client companies. The post may be regarded as a National Sales Management role, coupled with a client reporting interface. The successful candidate needs to have managed successfully for at least two years. The package will be attractive and will be of interest to candidates at Regional Manager or Field Sales Manager level. The challenge of training and developing a new team in various markets offers the ideal outlet for a dynamic, results driven manager.

Please write, enclosing a brief, but succinct CV to:

Berrie Halgh, M.P.S., Chairman
or
Graham Wilson, Managing Director
Ethical Contact
Division of Innovex Holdings Ltd
47 Bell Street,
Henley-on-Thames,
Oxon RG9 2BA
Tel: (0491) 571888



GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

حسنة من الاموال

CHARGE RADIOGRAPHER
Department of Clinical Oncology

Auckland, largest city in New Zealand (810,000) enjoys a temperate climate with no seasonal extremes. Rich in recreational facilities Auckland is well known for sailing, surfing and fishing in the immediate area.

The Auckland Hospital Board is a progressive body serving this vibrant growing city. A new building for the Department of Clinical Oncology will be commissioned later this year. The radiotherapy section will comprise three megavoltage treatment units. One orthovoltage treatment unit. Two superficial treatment units. One simulator. Planning end mould rooms. Plus space for a further megavoltage unit, a catheter and another superficial unit.

The present complement of 15 radiographers will increase to 21 with the commissioning of the new building. The proposed staff structure includes eight graded positions and 12 staff radiographers. Student radiographers are also trained in the Department.

The successful applicant for the position of Charge Radiographer will need a higher Diploma or qualification in therapeutic radiography. Supervisory experience is desirable though not essential. The Charge Radiographer is responsible for the administration and staffing of the Department. The appointment will be made subject to obtaining Registration with the NZ Medical Radiation Technologists Board.

The salary is NZ \$36,658 - NZ \$37,843 per annum. Application Forms and Conditions of Appointment are available from:

The Chief Executive, Auckland Hospital Board
PO Box 5546, Auckland 1, NEW ZEALAND
Applications close on Thursday 29 January 1987.

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Ideally, but by no means essentially, you will be a graduate with some knowledge of the Securities Industry. However, you must have at least 2 years' sound business experience in a City environment.

As an Adviser you will be responsible for providing guidance to the subsidiary companies of Member Firms concerning their need to belong to one of the several SRCs (Self Regulatory Organisations) under the new regulatory structure and to implement their membership of The Stock Exchange where appropriate.

You will need to gain quickly a thorough understanding of the relevant legislation, have the ability to find practical solutions to needs as they arise and to be knowledgeable and authoritative in areas where there is little precedent available.

Please write with full curriculum vitae to:
Alison King, Personnel Officer,
The International Stock Exchange of the
United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland Limited,
Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1HF.

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The Company has recently been reorganised, with a small Head Office in which the Planning Department has a key role in the following areas: formulation of policy, setting business objectives, allocating resources, identifying problem areas, analysing performance and specifying remedial action, and preparation of business plans. Our planning activities involve the incorporation of operating Divisions' plans into corporate plans and the development and implementation of strategies for the whole Company.

We are recruiting a Market Research Manager who will be responsible for the cost effective acquisition, interpretation and application of market information for Company-wide decision making as part of the Corporate Planning process. The person appointed will have a knowledge of market research techniques and sources and the ability to absorb and analyse information and communicate results effectively. Clarity of thought and expression will be vital. He or she will be flexible, able to work fast and efficiently with people at all levels in the Company and capable of completing projects personally through or in conjunction with colleagues or through third parties as appropriate. Relevant trade experience will be useful, but professional, technical and diplomatic skills are likely to be essential. The job will be demanding and only people who like being stretched should apply.

Please contact Personnel Administration Manager, Remploy Ltd., 415 Edgware Road, Cricklewood, London NE2 6LR. Tel: (01) 452 8020.

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A.T. Kearney Limited, 134 Piccadilly, London W1V 9FJ.

AT KEARNEY

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This is a high-profile position calling for an excellent management record in an environment where cost and quality of service are key objectives, and where you have been held personally accountable for their achievement. Strong leadership and communication skills will be essential. A competitive salary of up to £28,000 is offered together with a valuable benefits package including company car, pension scheme, performance linked bonus, private medical insurance and 5 weeks holiday. Relocation assistance available where appropriate.

Please write with full personal and career details to Martin Gibson, CP1R3A, Room 536, Post Office Headquarters, 33 Grosvenor Place, LONDON SW1X 1PX. Telephone 01-245 7083.

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An excellent opportunity to join our installation which is new to IMS/DC. If you have in-depth experience of IMS/DB + DC, or IMS/DB with CICS, and seek a challenging role as our company expert, we'd like to hear from you.

At our UK headquarters in Newbury we have a large IBM 3033 MVS installation linked to an extensive international SNA network. Other software used includes CICS, SAS, SLR, GDDM, LIBRARIAN, DATAMANAGER etc.

For candidates with the skills to make a real contribution to our progress we offer a first class salary and excellent benefits including 24 days holiday, subsidised BUPA, pension scheme, free life assurance, flexitime working and subsidised restaurant. Where appropriate we also offer generous assistance with relocation to the Newbury area.

For further details please ring Janet Stapley - Newbury (0635) 39483/Newbury (0635) 39466 (Answerphone after office hours). Bayer UK Limited, Bayer House, Strawberry Hill, Newbury, Berkshire.

Bayer

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SERVICE ENGINEER

Electrical Industry

The position of Service Engineer is vacant in a wholly owned subsidiary of a major Swiss company, U.K. based, the job will entail installation, commissioning and user training and the repair of machines used in the Electrical Manufacturing Industry, ranging from simple coil winding machines to complete C.N.C. systems for Armature & Field Manufacturing Installations and plant used in the Electrical Power Manufacturing Industry.

Ideally you should have a background in Electronics and Computer Control backed up with some formal qualifications and also have good mechanical skills as you will be expected to cover all aspects of our work.

A continuous training programme will be provided in order to build up your capability. A knowledge of the German language would be a distinct advantage.

Benefits include Company Car, Company Pension Scheme, BUPA, and expenses.

Salary is negotiable dependent upon age and experience.

If you are looking for a varied and interesting career and have a suitable background, please write with full C.V. to:

Mr. J. E. Cooper, Managing Director,
Micafil (GB) Ltd, 8A Church Street,
Rugby, CV21 13PH.
Tel: 0788 67721

MICAFIL

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(Stop here if you are 9-5 and routine)

You have confidence, style and ability. You are looking for a company that recognises these qualities and rewards accordingly - we are that company.

Like you, we are committed to not coming second.

The job involves convincing financial institutions in the City that our services are indispensable.

We are a major U.S. printing corporation and our rapid success necessitates expansion of our sales team, both external and internal. We need to develop the right people now.

With or without industry or sales experience, if you believe you have something to offer contact:

Jacqui Davis Personnel Manager
R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company Limited
Financial and Security Printing
5 Devonshire Square London EC2M 4YD
Tel: 01 623 3126

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

CJA

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH
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Prospects of advancement to Business Manager in 2-3 years

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE - POLYMERS



MIDLANDS

£17,000 + CAR

PLASTICS DIVISION OF MAJOR BRITISH MANUFACTURING GROUP

Growth and acquisition result in the need to strengthen the Business Development team. Applications are invited from candidates, aged 26-30, preferably Graduates, with formal training in Polymer Science, Applied Chemistry or a related discipline. We require at least 5 years post-graduate practical experience of plastics materials and applications, technology and conversion processes particularly injection moulding. An understanding of the field technical service function and German or another European language will be advantageous. Reporting to a Business Manager, the successful candidate will be responsible for supporting an established customer base and for pioneering other new business development in mainly European markets. Significant overseas travel is involved. Essential qualities, as a member of a small, flexible unit, are a sound technical grasp, commercial acumen and the ability to meet objectives with the minimum of direction. Initial salary negotiable circa £17,000, car, contributory pension, life assurance and assistance with relocation. Reference: BDE-4450/TT.

Scope exists for promotion to General Sales Manager within the Group



REGIONAL SALES MANAGER - EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST

MIDLANDS

£15,000 + CAR

To ensure the continuing success of an expansive Corporate strategy, this client also requires an additional Regional Sales Manager to achieve increased penetration of existing and potential markets in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Candidates, aged 26-30, will be skilled negotiators with a proven record in the sales of plastics materials or specialty chemicals in the international market place, both direct and via distributors. An understanding of polymer technology and a facility for languages are desirable. The successful candidate will be responsible to the General Sales Manager for all aspects of the sales/commercial management and planned development of the territories concerned, including the control and motivation of agents' operations and provision of technical support. Up to 40% away travel is necessary. Key to the success of this appointment are a pioneering instinct, the capacity to identify and close profitable contracts and to deliver targeted results. Initial salary negotiable circa £15,000, car, contributory pension, life assurance and assistance with relocation. Reference: FSM-4451/TT. Applications in strict confidence quoting the appropriate reference to the Managing Director.

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON ASSOCIATES (MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS) LIMITED, 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH. TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. TELEFAX: 887374. FAX: 01-256 8501.

Marketing Manager

From system evaluation to product launch;
a key role in Total Solution Sales

£20K + BONUS
CENTRAL LONDON

From PCs to switches, from electronic mail to fax, British Telecom is a front-runner in providing information technology for business.

We're committed to building on this success. How? By making it our business to understand our customers' needs and provide them with total solutions. To this end we have established a small team which concentrates on marketing applications software packages - mainly mini-computer based - to our medium and large-sized customers. It will become a highly profitable arm of our business and one which we are keen to develop with this key appointment.

The Applications Marketing Manager, as the head of this team will play the leading role in identifying systems needs, finding and tailoring suitable software packages, preparing marketing plans and launching the products.

British TELECOM

British Telecom is an Equal Opportunity Employer

- This will involve:
 - Investigating the feasibility of the proposed software solution.
 - Negotiating with hardware and software suppliers.
 - Managing modifications for the UK market.
 - Dealing with customers, suppliers, and internal departments of BT.

It's a broad brief which calls for a sound understanding of IT applications and markets together with the ability to communicate with customers up to board level. A marketing or Customer Sales Support background within a software company or systems house would be the ideal platform for success. We're not demanding a formal marketing qualification, but we will provide the training and the encouragement to gain one. In a business area of enormous potential, the scope and the career prospects are quite exceptional.

The post is based in Central London and offers a performance-related bonus and other benefits in support of a salary in the region of £20K.

If you feel you have the knowledge, the maturity and the imagination to rise to the challenge, we'd like to know more. So please phone or write to our Consultant: Stephen Diner, JM Management Services, Columbia House, 69 Aldwych, London, WC2B 4DX. Tel: 01-631 0111. Quote ref. T60.

Applications

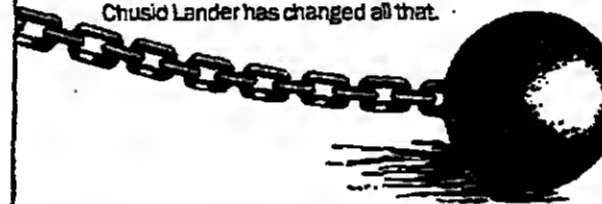
ARE YOU DOING THE JOB YOU WANT TO... OR HAVE TO?

Many of us are so involved with the jobs we're doing and the responsibilities we have that we seldom stop to wonder whether we are making full use of our potential.

We are working because we have to - we have mortgages to pay, families to support, rates, gas, electricity and the list goes on. These are not so much excuses as facts of life.

Another fact is that most of us have a nagging doubt that we could be doing better but we just don't know what to do about it.

Chusid Lander has changed all that.



We are a group of specialist career consultants whose sole function is to guide executives and professional people and help them achieve their individual objectives.

We guarantee that we will commit our time and effort until you are satisfied that your career objectives have been realised.

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To arrange an early confidential appointment, without obligation, telephone your nearest office, or alternatively send us your cv. Ref: A/12/1

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35/37 Fitzroy Street, London W1P 5AF

AMBITIOUS YOUNG SALES EXECUTIVES

Are you ready for Hotline - the new British Telecom initiative in electronic publishing?

Competitive basic + Commission + car

The Value Added Business Services Division of British Telecom has launched an electronic database service offering instant, 24-hour online access to business information. Databases cover business news, markets and company information.

We are now looking for bright, enthusiastic young individuals, ideally graduates in their early twenties, to generate sales for this service among users in the business and financial community.

You will have a background in marketing, advertising or research, and you will be very aware of the need for fast reliable information in gaining a competitive edge in today's international marketplace.

Business orientated and self-motivated, you will be backed by a young marketing team, but you will operate completely independently in setting your own targets and following up sales leads.

A commitment to customer service is essential, and familiarity with computers and/or information retrieval is desirable.

To apply, please write enclosing a full CV to: Tracey Foshman, British Telecom, 2nd Floor, Wellington House, 6-9 Upper St Martin's Lane, London WC2H 9DL, telephone 01-836 1715. Quote ref T67.

British TELECOM

Manager

Trusts and Personal Financial Planning
East Midlands

KMG Thomson McLintock is one of the UK's leading firms of chartered accountants, operating worldwide as part of the KMG organisation. We wish to recruit a manager to control and expand a personal financial planning function within a strong tax department. The task is to advise in areas such as trusts, inheritance tax planning, life assurance, pensions and investments. The successful candidate must have the personality and experience to advise at the highest levels.

An attractive salary, pension scheme and company car are offered. There are substantial opportunities for career development.

Detailed applications in writing, together with curriculum vitae to JRN Lowe.

KMG Thomson McLintock

JAMES HARRIS & SON WINCHESTER

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With at least 2 years experience, to join the sales team of the leading independent Hampshire Agents with specialising in town house and well established country house departments.

ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Well educated - selling ability - conscientious - hard working - clean driving licence

Apply in writing, enclosing C.V. to: James Harris & Son, 111 High Street, Winchester, Hampshire.

NABARRO NATHANSON

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

Due to expansion, this West End firm of solicitors requires an additional assistant in their Personnel Department.

We are looking for someone who:

- is in their mid-twenties
- is educated to A level standard
- has a minimum of 2.5 years' experience in a Personnel Department in an administrative capacity (but with the ability to type)
- is organised and capable of acting on their own initiative
- has the ability to deal with people at all levels
- has a sympathetic and understanding nature.

The job involves: dealing with all aspects of Personnel including routine administration, some recruiting and the undertaking of specific projects. The firm offers: a competitive salary, season ticket loan, twice yearly salary reviews, four weeks' holiday.

Please send full cv. to Miss P Brown, Personnel Administrator, Nabarro Nathanson, 76 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6NR.



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Civilian Careers for Electronic Technicians

ELECTRONICS BRANCH REME, MALVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE

Vacancies exist for a number of civilian technicians with The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) Electronics Branch at Malvern.

THE JOBS Successful applicants would be employed on engineering projects related to the development and support of military electronic systems. These include Army Communications Radar and Guided Weapons equipment together with the associated manual and Automatic Test Equipment (ATE).

Some of the posts specifically require staff with experience of ATE and its related software engineering. However a broad electronic engineering background is the prime requirement for all posts.

A capability for clear oral and written expression is important and experience in writing technical reports is highly desirable. All vacancies may involve some travel.

THE LOCATION Adjacent to the Malvern Hills, close to Worcester, Hereford, Gloucester and Cheltenham, with ready access by rail and road (M5) to Birmingham. Malvern is a place that may people choose for their holidays. Housing is relatively cheap when compared with overall national values.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE A minimum of 4 years recognised formal training (eg. apprenticeship), with ONC or equivalent. (HNC or equivalent preferred).

Ex-Service candidates who do not possess the above qualifications will be considered if they have completed an artifice course or equivalent and have served for at least 4 years in an approved technical capacity with HM Forces in the rank of Staff Sergeant or equivalent or above.

HOLIDAYS Annual holidays with pay, as for members and two days' leave in stages to six weeks with long service, plus 10% days Bank Holidays. SALARY Salary will be within the scale £7,420 to £9,869 with further increases up to £11,130 over the next three years and promotion prospects to over £18,000.

Relocation expenses of up to £5,000 will be paid where appropriate. The Civil Service is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Application forms can be obtained from EME 1b (2), Building 66, LE(A), Portway, Monixton Road, ANDOVER Hants SP11 8HT by sending this coupon or by telephoning: ANDOVER (0264) 82792/82783/82345. Completed applications should be returned by 8th January 1987.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send me an application form for Electronic Technicians. To be returned to EME 1b(2), Building 66, LE(A), Portway, Monixton Road, ANDOVER, Hants SP11 8HT by 8th January 1987.

Name _____

Address _____

Signature _____ Date _____

ELECTRONICS BRANCH REME, MALVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE

A SUCCESS STORY

has been enjoyed by our clients, a major European manufacturer. They are now looking to enhance their achievements with sales to the TIMES TOP 500 Companies in the U.K., with a range of Minis and Micros including UNIX based products.

As an Accounts Manager you will have access to comprehensive technical resource, and enjoy the challenge of negotiating with top company top management which will enable you to easily achieve your

£35,000 OTE

to find out how to share their success ring Mrs Judy Wright.

TVCA Recruitment Consultants
185 High Street Shepperton
Middlesex TW17 9BL ☎ 09322 44014
(24 hours)

Member of the Federation of Recruitment and Employment Services



PERSONNEL OFFICER Investment Banking House To £20,000

Bright personality required to take responsibility for personnel - from establishing the department to day-to-day administration in this exciting international environment. Around 30, with IPM qualifications and 3/4 years relevant experience.

Please telephone Charlotte Smith, on 01-831 1603 or send c.v. to 39 Floral Street, London WC2E 9DG.

SENSE EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT

TRAINEE SALES AGENTS (COMPUTERS AND OFFICE SYSTEMS)

Age 21 to 28 with driving licence and Greater London based. 15% expected first year (UK guaranteed) + generous commission plus car package. Tel: Personnel Department City Business Machines Group on 01-631 0286 for application form

PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATE

Required for rapid growing employment services. This outstanding opportunity offers a graduate with knowledge of service industry, particularly insurance, with good marketing and promotion training. Education travel is encouraged. No salary and there is at least two other European branches. A career. Age range 25-45. Write enclosing CV to: Bullock, 31 Old Burlington Street, London W1X 1LB.

ACCOUNT DIRECTOR

Optimus is a creative design and communications house with operations in Cambridge, London, Amsterdam, Melbourne and Sydney.

Our clients include British Telecom, the Ford Motor Company, Fisher Price, Philips, EMAP and the BBC.

Continued success has created an opportunity for an account director who will need to be ambitious, dedicated and totally committed to the high standards of the group.

The right person will have the energy and personal bearing to create the link between clients and the studio. He or she will also need the ability to develop and coordinate accounts captured by our team.

It's a job that requires commitment, versatility and, sometimes, diplomacy. The expectation of an Optimus account director includes:

- Responsibility for building an account handling team.
- Management and co-ordination of projects and accounts on a day-to-day basis. This includes liaising with client, design and production to ensure correct interpretation of briefs, schedule accuracy and profitability.

It's a challenging and rewarding job - for the right person. So if the profile matches your aspirations, we'd like to hear from you. Send your CV and a supporting letter to Cavan Bickell at the address below.

Optimus
The Communications World
Cambridge London Amsterdam Sydney
Alfred House
10 Alfred Place
London WC1E 7EB

ARE YOU BEING PAID WHAT YOU ARE WORTH?

Exciting opportunity for two people (23+) to join a major group in the financial services industry (West End location).

Full training. Rapid Progression into management, Equity participation and £15,000 + per annum.

Call Geoff Spittles on 01 439 8431

EX SERVICE OFFICERS

Qualities developed as an Officer could help you succeed in a new career with a large national company. We seek people with drive, determination and, above all, professionalism.

For further information in your area please telephone

Sandy Sanderson
0242 38228 (Cotswolds)
Mike Johnson
0203 417694 (Midlands)

BADENOCH & CLARK

VAT/CUSTOMS CONSULTANCY LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES £18-£23,000

High calibre graduate Senior Officers with several years' experience within Customs and Excise are required by several of our clients, major international firms of Chartered Accountants. These are challenging and innovative roles requiring young, enthusiastic, quality individuals with proven talent and specialist Head Office experience. Excellent scope for expansion of existing groups and development of new departments, offering VAT and Customs consultancy as an important commercial service both to existing and potential clients.

Applicants must be smart, articulate and confident, in the age range 28 to 35 and must possess the determination to succeed in this rapidly expanding field.

Please contact Rachel Caine or Lucy Sherrin.

Financial Recruitment Specialists
16-18 New Bridge St, London EC4V 6AU Telephone 01-583 0073 or contact Timothy Burrage on 01-874 6746

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY LAWYER

Due to continuing expansion, an Assistant Solicitor is required for our commercial property department which undertakes a wide variety of substantial work including development schemes, planning inquiries and lending by Major Institutions. The successful candidate will be required to have at least two years relevant experience and be able to respond positively to a demanding clientele. A substantial salary will be offered.

LEAK ALMOND & PARKINSON SOLICITORS

Write with full details to Peter Oldham, at 76 King Street, Manchester M2 4WB.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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 Expanding 8 partner firm requires a qualified senior to be responsible for a wide ranging and interesting portfolio of clients and to assist the firm in providing a personal service. Applicants qualified by experience only will also be considered.
 We can offer generous terms and benefits. For further details contact:
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 Josolyne & Co.,
 Silk House, Park Green,
 Macclesfield, CHESHIRE
 Tel: (0625) 28011

WEST SUSSEX EXPERIENCED QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT REQUIRED
 to be responsible for large client audit work and general practice involvement with wide variety of clients.
 West Sussex location preferred. Salary negotiable.
 Please phone Mr. G. Middleton,
 Middleton & Ashcroft,
 Horsham (0403) 50303.

Electronic Information Database Manager
 International media and publishing
 London to £25,000 + benefits
 This new appointment pioneers the development of an electronic text storage and retrieval system for editorial data within the major European operating company of an international media and publishing group.
 The easy availability of information is crucial to the efficiency of the journalists. Working closely with the Information Technology Department, you will be assisting in the design, development and implementation of what will be one of the most advanced systems of its kind.
 To qualify, you must be experienced in the application and development of electronic information retrieval systems, ideally in a media or publishing environment. Probably a graduate, aged 35-45, your strong man-management and interpersonal skills will be critical in the successful implementation of change.
 The remuneration package includes base salary as indicated plus pension, BUPA, and other benefits.
 To apply, please send your cv to:
PA
 Dana Clark, Technology Group,
 Ref: 0816/DC/ITT.
PA Personnel Services
 Executive Search • Selection • Psychometrics • Remuneration & Personnel Consultancy
 Hyde Park House, 60a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE.
 Tel: 01-235 6060 Telex: 27874

BRITISH WOOL
 PRESTIGIOUS APPOINTMENT/GENERAL MANAGEMENT OPPORTUNITY
MARKETING DIRECTOR
 Bradford Substantial salary + car etc
 The British Wool Marketing Board is responsible for marketing virtually all the wool produced in the United Kingdom. It does this both directly, and indirectly through a number of companies in some of which it has a significant interest. The total revenues of the Board and its subsidiaries exceed £100m.
 The marketing director is responsible for promoting British wool as a prestige fibre in the major consumer markets of the world. In conjunction with this, he or she will have general management responsibility for a rapidly growing company which markets products manufactured from British wool. The sale of these products, which includes a growing range of designer garments, is seen as a high profile means of promoting the use of British wool.
 The successful candidate will have strong marketing skills and sound general management experience, preferably, but not necessarily, gained in a textile environment. Experience of both retailing and wholesaling, at a senior level, would be a distinct advantage.
 As in excess of two thirds of revenue comes from export sales, a sound understanding of overseas markets and a willingness to travel extensively is essential.
 This is a prestige marketing position and one that offers the additional attraction of general management responsibility.
 Apply in confidence enclosing a full CV and quoting reference no. L/04 T, to Timothy Elster, Executive Selection Division.

Opportunities for Keepers
 The NATIONAL GALLERY OF SCOTLAND and the SCOTTISH NATIONAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART, both of which require a Keeper form part of the National Galleries of Scotland which contains the most distinguished collection of paintings in the UK outside London.
 As Keeper you will be responsible for the day-to-day administration of one of the Galleries and for the care, management, display and development of its collection.
 You should normally have a good honours degree in the History of Fine Art, an excellent knowledge of European and British painting and sculpture and a working knowledge of two foreign European languages. Experience of museum administration would be an advantage.
 Salary £18,020 - £24,300.
 For further details and an application form (to be returned by 31 December 1986) write to the Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/7053.
National Galleries of Scotland
 An equal opportunity employer

NATIONAL YOUTH THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN
 Some time before his death, Mr Michael Croft had announced his intention to retire as Director of the National Youth Theatre at the end of 1987. With the Council of the NYTGB he had established the machinery for his succession and the structure within which the company should operate, headed by an Artistic Director and an Administrative Director working in tandem.
 Having appointed Mr David Balcombe as Administrative Director, the Council invites applications for the post of
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
 Ideally the Council seeks applicants with sound experience of Youth Theatre work, but candidates with general theatre experience combined with youth work will be considered. Pastoral responsibility for members of the company (aged 14-21) is equally as important as artistic leadership because of the unique constitution of the NYT. The successful applicant will be involved in all aspects of the running of the company, the maintenance of its aims and the development of current and future policy and its implementation.
 Written applications should include a full CV and the names of three referees. They should be addressed, in strictest confidence, to:
Mr Malcolm Horsman
 Chairman
 NYTGB
 34 York Way
 LONDON N1 9AB
 to arrive by 31st December 1986
 Salary would be commensurate with a position of this importance and responsibility.

PEAT MARWICK
 Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co.,
 City Square House, 7 Wellington Street, Leeds LS1 4DW

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 Our London based clients, a respected name in the financial information and publishing fields are seeking a
RESEARCH MANAGER to £30,000
 To head up the Research division of a dynamic group of companies. Responsible for developing the reputation and profitability of the Research Company, the successful applicant will be ideally aged between 27 and 45, with a strong research background preferably in a financial discipline and with strong presentation skills and entrepreneurial flair. An excellent salary package will match the experience required for this key position.
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 To work in tandem with the Manager, ideal candidates will have sound research expertise obtained in a financial environment and will ideally be in their twenties. A first-class package will be assembled for the candidate with experience and powerful motivation.
 For further information please contact Steve Atcock on 01-437 3344 quoting reference S5344 or send your C.V. to him at:
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 with sales ambition. Munster Carpets Ltd, as representative of J.D. McMurray (Cornermar) Ltd, Ireland, a well established and rapidly growing producer of the highest quality hand tufted carpets, area rugs and wall hangings, are seeking an ambitious designer/colorist to work within the sales team of their representatives in the U.K. Munster Carpets Ltd based in London, the successful candidate will probably be in their late twenties/early thirties and will be able to display a knowledge of the designer/architect/specifier market, as well as practical commercial sense. An attractive remuneration package in line with the importance of this position will be offered.
EXPERIENCED CARPET CONTRACT EXECUTIVE
 AREA OF OPERATION: LONDON HOME COUNTIES
 Applicants should be experienced in negotiating carpet or similar contracts with Specifiers, Architects, Contractors and all commercial organizations, and will be required to demonstrate a proven track record in this area. Applicants must live in area of operation. Remuneration by excellent salary and commission. Life assurance and pension schemes in operation. Company car and expenses provided. Annual holidays - 4 weeks.
 Apply in writing with the assurance all correspondence will be dealt with in a confidential manner to:
Mr. G.J. Marlborough (U.K. Sales Manager)
MUNSTER CARPETS LIMITED,
 4 Strathfield Gardens,
 Barking, Essex, E11 9UL England.
 Tel: 01-591 0631 and 01-594 2033.

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 Turn your commuting nightmare into a dream - FREE parking, 15 mins. Clapham Junction, 20 mins. Waterloo. Rapidly expanding Computer Leasing Company offer an exciting opportunity to a person with excellent administrative skills who is self-motivated and keen to take on responsibility. If you are an experienced administrator with initiative, organisational flair, an eye for detail, able to liaise confidently with people at all levels and have a good standard of education then contact us now for further details. A qualification or interest in Company Law (Institute of Chartered Secretaries), although not essential, would be an advantage and could lead to appointed Company Secretary. Excellent salary, company car, attractive benefits package including generous bonuses, luxurious, prestigious riverside offices.
 Contact: Len Bartlett (M.D.)
 Integrated Computer Systems
 ICS House
 High Street
 Kingston-Upon-Thames
 Surrey
 Tel: 01 546 2199

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 If you are independent, self motivated and in need of a challenge, then we offer you job satisfaction and high earnings.
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 If you have a technical background and are looking for a successful career in sales then we offer you full product and sales training combined with the best sales support available, plus all the benefits you would expect from a market leader.
 For your personal invitation to meet us phone Mike LePut U.K. Sales manager NOW on 01-890 0191 or 0734-783506.
CROWN

BROCHURE PRODUCER SENIOR COPYWRITER
 Major International Tour Operator seeks senior Copywriter/ Creative Director with experience producing travel brochures for the American market. Background in travel marketing, knowledge of European destinations essential. Direct mail experience beneficial.
 Position is London based. Good salary. Benefits. Relocation expenses provided. Send resume with salary history to BOX A45.

Royal Society of Arts
HEAD OF PROJECTS
 The RSA (Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce) is looking for a polymathic, mature, efficient and imaginative administrator; capable of co-ordinating, promoting and finding the funds for projects ranging from campaigns to bring about change in our education system to organising a music competition or awards for corporate achievement in the management of technological innovation.
 The successful candidate will report direct to the Secretary (Chief Executive) of the Society. The job can to some extent be tailored to the talents of the chosen candidate, therefore the salary could fall anywhere between £16,000 and £20,000.
 Application form, with job specification, available from the Secretary's office (01-930 5115). Completed applications to the Secretary, Royal Society of Arts, 8 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6EZ by 9 January.

Superb Opportunities for Graduates (with or without sales experience) seeking careers in Sales & Management
CALOR
 Gas Limited is the British owned market leader in the high growth liquefied petroleum gas industry with an annual turnover in excess of £300 million.
 This rapidly growing company is expanding into many new markets and can offer opportunities Nationwide to Graduates with or without sales experience who are seeking to build a long term career in Sales and Management.
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 So, if you are under 30, a Graduate with a good track record in sales or at least one year's experience in a commercial environment, ambitious and looking for genuine career opportunities, high earnings, plus generous benefits including a company car - phone our consultants on: 01-541 1777.
THE NICHOLS CONSULTANCY LIMITED
 EXECUTIVE SELECTION CONSULTANTS
TRAVEL CONSULTANT
 £10,000+ pa after 12 months
 If you are well travelled with an aptitude for selling, or have previous travel agency experience and are looking for a fast moving, challenging job in a very busy and progressive retail agency, then apply to us. Situated in Kensington with all transport, Travcom, United Apollo and the most advanced technology, we are market leaders.
 Written applications and CVs to:
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 Trailfinders Travel Centre,
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 London W8 6EJ.
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 Professional Guidance and Assessment for all ages.
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 30 Grosvenor Place W1
 ●●● 01-835 5492 (24 hrs)
 ●●●

MGM ASSURANCE
Fund Management and Administration
 In readiness for an expansion of its range of unit funds, MGM Assurance has vacancies for people to provide support for the current fixed interest and equity management team and to train as fund managers.
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Retraining is vital

both in industry

and careers, and it

may be best to make

the moves yourself,

says Sally Watts

This comment on the Open University's effective manager course by a quality assurance executive spells out the message that retraining is vital, both to industry and to individual careers.

Decide which type of continuing education, or updating, will be most appropriate in your case: open learning, distance learning, working full-time or part-time for a degree, perhaps taking a shorter course at a technical or further education college.

Then consider funding. Will your company sponsor you? Would you improve your chances by joining another company? Could you pay for yourself? Many do. If not, are you eligible for a loan, grant or scholarship?

Career development loans are available from Barclays, Clydeside and the Co-operative Bank for people on vocational courses lasting from a week to a year. No interest is payable until up to three months after you complete the course.

Locating the right course is important. If computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacture (CAD/CAM) is your field, take care that the one you choose has the right material. Potential students are warned by Dr Ernest Warman, managing director of the CAD/CAM Association: "Some polytechnics are processing people who are no use to companies because the courses lack the right content. They are using CAD/CAM as a catch-all."

'My purpose is to attract good quality graduates'

So his association has been vetting and accrediting remaining courses, and the results are to be published in a free handbook available to non-members in January. A catalogue for CAD/CAM Association members was produced earlier this year.

You could use Prestel to see which of the thousands of short schemes the Department of Education and Science offers through PICKUP (Professional, Commercial and Industrial Updating) would be most relevant. These cover new technology, skills, methods and materials for people from boardroom to shopfloor.

Consider also the opportunities offered by universities, polytechnics and colleges. One of the most positive is the Integrated Graduate Development Scheme at the University of Warwick, which came out top in the grants review of last spring. With 600 students, this is the largest postgraduate programme in Europe.

It is run by Professor Kumar

Bhattacharyya, Lucas professor of Manufacturing Systems, who started it with a colleague in response to the Finnieston Report, to combat the huge turnover of new graduates in industry when they were hit by "the shock of manufacturing".

He says: "My purpose is to attract good quality graduates to industry, to convert them to what manufacturing requires and to retrain them." Management has helped to develop the programmes, which started with Lucas and BL staff and now include, among others, Rolls-Royce, British Aerospace, Short Brothers and GKN.

The modular courses, on information technology in manufacturing or manufacturing systems, leads to an MSc degree via continuous assessment and a project. Most are in their twenties and all are sponsored; some middle managers also do the course; others take short, tailored ones. People at board level study defined subjects - the future of manufacturing, for example.

Graduates who would benefit from the scheme, but lack sponsorship, should apply to Warwick for a Science and Engineering Research Council scholarship, says Professor Bhattacharyya, or try to join a company that will sponsor them.

Modular schemes are specially adapted to those who can spare little time away from work. At Surrey University, Michael Bader, Dean for Continuing Education, is looking at ways to use them more flexibly, believing a national system must develop in which credits are interchangeable between colleges. Others foresee mixed-source credits - obtained from evening class, summer school, distance learning or whatever - counting towards a qualification.

There is always something new for students who want to work and study simultaneously. For instance, there are two relatively new distance learning management courses from Henley and Brunel, leading to an MSc. Or take open learning. This year the Open Business School - whose slogan is "management courses that leave time for management" - has two additions, Managing People, and Planning and Managing Change. Both take up to five hours' study a week for six months, and count towards the school's management diploma.

Other subjects include effective management, marketing, personnel selection, accounting and finance. A chartered engineer wrote of the latter: "It has given me the financial and account-

ing background traditionally lacking in the conventional qualification."

Open learning also includes the imaginative Open Tech, for technicians and supervisors wanting to learn new skills at their own pace and place, and next September a new addition will be the Manpower Services Commission's Open College, to broadcast education programmes on television and radio, both BBC and independent, and so provide more opportunities for retraining and career enhancement.

For engineers, scientists or managers, preferably with a degree, the Open University's SATUP (Scientific and Technological Updating Programme) offers a postgraduate diploma or second degree. For this, students select eight of 22 subjects in two categories - manufacturing, and industrial applications of computers. Those who are unsponsored can apply for a Panasonic Trust grant. Alternatively, students can study just one or two subjects relevant to their career.

"People come here to reorientate their career and few go back in their old company," says a professor of the Cranfield School of Management. He was discussing students - generally in the late twenties - who put themselves through the intensive one-year, full-time Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree. Very few are sponsored, but a cheap rate loan may be available from the British Graduates Association.

Elusive but essential quality of confidence

Other useful schemes include the MSC's Access to information technology, available at evenings and weekends, to give general grounding with practical experience and, for a somewhat different market, the Open University's diploma course, to equip secondary school teachers to introduce technology into the curriculum, even though they have little prior knowledge of the subject. This will start in 1987.

For would-be achievers who lack the elusive but essential quality of confidence, the training specialist Eleanor Macdonald has produced a tape with guidance and ideas in four areas: using self-knowledge to build a profile; projecting yourself and communicating; acquiring confidence through speech, poise and thought; harmonizing your aims and objectives; and working successfully with others.

CAD/CAM Association, 170 Park Road, Peterborough PE1 2UF (0733 312109). Eleanor Macdonald, EM Courses, 4 Mapledale Avenue, Croydon CR0 5TA (01-654 4639).

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Job description and application form can be obtained from the Personnel Department, 85 Highbury Park, London N5 1UD. NCH is a Christian-based organisation. Closing date 11th December - Interviews week commencing 15th December.

NCH

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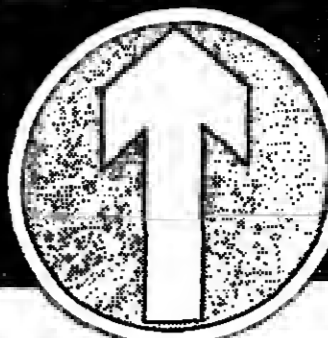
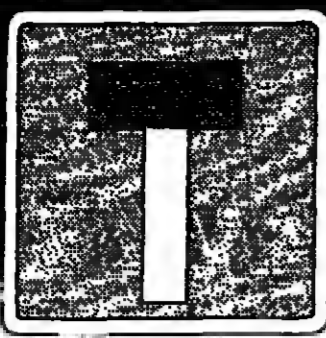
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In return we are offering a salary of between £10,500 and £12,500 (depending on experience and qualifications) and good prospects. If you would like to be considered for this challenging and interesting vacancy, please apply in writing, enclosing a detailed CV to:- Joan Hunter, Personnel Officer, BPC plc, PO Box 283, 33 Holborn, London EC1N 2NE.

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Experienced medical secretary required to ensure the smooth running of the administrative and clerical services provided to the Director and his team, including the supervision of three departmental secretaries on a day to day basis.

Whilst shorthand is not essential, you should have good audio skills and previous secretarial experience would be an advantage.

Close to Hammersmith bus and tube stations, this large teaching Hospital offers a great range of facilities including a thriving sports and social club, squash courts and a swimming pool. Salary is in the range of £7,000 - £9,500 p.a. etc. The post falls vacant on 26 January 1987 and interviews will be held on 19th December 1986. Shortlisted candidates will be notified by telephone.

Further details available from the Unit Personnel Department, Charing Cross Hospital, Fulham Palace Road, Hammersmith W6. Telephone 01-748 2340 ext 2292.

Closing date: 22th December 1986.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Requires secretary/pa in W1 area, typing 45 wpm, no shorthand, knowledge of Olivetti WP an advantage, aged 24-28. Salary negotiable.

Contact 637 3136. No agencies.

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Honeyghan, the Master of Disaster, who fulfilled his date with destiny

Boxing legend who would rather make love, not war

This time last year, Lloyd Honeyghan was another hopeful challenger for the world welterweight boxing championship. The holder was Donald "The Cobra" Curry, popularly considered to be pound-for-pound the best boxer in the world. Today, Honeyghan is the undisputed world champion. The only undisputed champion there is, a point he rams home with touching regularity.

What happened has now passed into sporting folklore. The no-hoper from Bermoosey went over to Atlantic City and came out firing on all cylinders. The pound-for-pound best boxer in the world plodded out with a fistful of pounds too many. He probably didn't even know his opponent's name. The rest is, to coin a phrase, history.

"I'm afraid at the Press conference before the fight that it was my destiny to be world champion. They all laughed but that just made me think that he who laughs last laughs best. I've known that I was going to be world champion since I was 14."

Since becoming world champion, Honeyghan has been in demand. He has just returned from his native Jamaica where he took part in a "Get High On Life" campaign, and where he was presented with the Prime Minister's Award, the highest honour in the land. And tonight he is saluted as the Sports Writers' Association Sportsman of the Year, ahead of Crum, Thompson, Coe, Lincker, Andrius and the rest.

'Kids look up to me because I beat a legend'

The day we met him, he was making a personal appearance in aid of a Spelthorne Against Drugs, a local community campaign. Needless to say, the schools were empty that day. By the time we left, he had written "With love, Lloyd" on more scraps of paper than he would care to remember. That same evening he was opening a youth club in Tulsa Hill after a request by the Brixton police.

"All this stuff is good because young kids look up to me and to see me working with the police on something like this sets a good example. I don't drink, smoke or take drugs. The occasional glass of wine doesn't hurt anyone."

"Kids these days need heroes and there aren't many around. They look up to me because I beat a legend." He thought for a minute before adding: "I'm a legend, the undisputed champion of the world."

For a black youngster growing up in the sixties, there could only really be one contender for the title of hero: Muhammad Ali. The combination of talent, pride and an arrogance borne out of supreme self-confidence proved irresistible to millions. "When I was young I used to fight like Ali. You know, the shuffle and everything. People used to come to the shows and go crazy, chanting, 'Ali, Ali,' because that was the way I used to box."

Regardless of what the crowds chanted, young Honeyghan soon got himself a reputation. He may call himself the Master of Disaster now but then he was just called flash. In the conservative world of amateur boxing, the sight of a loudmouth black kid — the shuffle was not the only thing he got from Ali — sporting a personalized dressing gown was not one designed to inspire admiration. When the dressing gown came off and the fancy footwork started, things got worse. That he kept winning added insult to injury.

At win he did. It was, after all, "his destiny". The discipline and dedication seemed to come easily, too. "I used to go training, then I used to go to clubbing. I had to hold back a little but I don't think that I missed out on anything."

"I love dancing, though, and it was good because it helped with the boxing and the boxing helped with the dancing, for fitness. I don't do that any more."

Women. After the Curry bout, there was as much talk of Honeyghan's conquests outside the ring as there were of those inside. An image was painted of a man whose idea of training was bedroom-based and whose sparring partners were of the strictly feminine variety. A batch of children was produced as evidence.

Lloyd? "Well, that's the Press for you. What can I do if they want to print things like that? Sure, I like women, just like everybody else. I love women. There's no two ways about it. When I was younger, yeah, sure I used to make love, go training, make love, fight and then make love when I'd finished. But

now I'm champion of the world, I can't do that. I've got to set an example to young kids. But I'm not reformed, I'm the same Lloyd Honeyghan. I'm not changing for anyone, but I'm world champion now."

What do you do outside boxing? "Make love."

Women and children are the least of Honeyghan's problems. Aged 26, he has achieved his life's work. Everything has been a build-up to one thing and it's now been done. With it has come wealth and fame that must have been beyond the wildest dreams of the nine-year-old boy who first stepped off the plane from Jamaica. Will life ever be the same? Will it ever have meaning? More to the point, will he be able to handle the changes?

'This business isn't going to change me'

"People like John Conteh do what they did because of the pressures of the managers. I don't think it's the lifestyle. When you know that you're a good fighter and you know you're not doing all you want to do and setting all you want to get... it's a lot of pressure. I used to get... it was with Terry Lawless. I could control it but it was getting to me. When I left him, I was on the verge of a nervous breakdown."

Mentioning the name of Lawless to Honeyghan elicits the same reaction as going up to Norman Tebbit and whispering "BBC" in his ear. Honeyghan is now managed by Mickey Duff, a close associate of the Lawless camp.

But how will he handle the money and those attendant pressures? "The money will get me a better house and a better car but the figures that you read in the papers... I read that I once got £170,000. I tell you, if I really got that kind of money, I wouldn't be sitting here now."

"When I stop doing this, in a couple of years, I want to become a trainer or a manager because I love boxing. I would like to show young boxers the right way, in the ring and outside it. I could never do to young kids what people have done to me. This business isn't going to change me. I've always been the way I am and always will be."

Jeremy Novick

سكوتات الالمان



Here's looking at you, kid: Honeyghan, turning the tables on the opposition, feels as much at ease behind the camera as he does in front of it (Photograph: Nick Rogers)

SQUASH RACKE

The sting in the tail proves decisive

By Colin McQuillan

The Dunnington Mill squad in the American Express Premier League are called Poundstretchers in recognition of their team sponsorship from British Airways. They might justifiably be labelled playerstretchers for their capabilities in playing post-concussion even when their top strings are not available.

The East Grinstead team still lead the national league, if only by a single point, after inflicting a 4-1 defeat upon a Halls West Country squad reinforced by the Swedish number one, Ian Ulf Soderberg. With Philip Kenyon and Kelvin Smith playing at the Al Falaj Open in Oman, responsibility for maintaining their lead fell upon Paul Gregory and Danny Meddings, two of the youngest players in the competition but increasingly noteworthy for professional commitment.

The Poundstretchers needed every possible point to resist the growing challenge from Skol Leicester, who won 4-1 in Wakefield against Visco Monroe, and InterCity-Cannons, who defeated Nottingham 3-2, with the under-23 champion Jamie Hickox beating Greg Pollard, the world No. 13, in straight games.

Hard fought five-game victories came for the East Grinstead side from Andrew Dwyer and Steve Cunningham but Phil Whitlock, normally a dependable third string, was always struggling against Soderberg, who had only arrived from Stockholm during the afternoon.

Dunnington Mill	P	W	L	Pts
Skol Leicester	7	8	1	38
InterCity-Cannons	7	4	3	26
Concorde Northampton	7	4	3	26
Chapel Allerton	7	4	3	26
Halls West Nottingham	7	2	5	18
Alford Hill	7	2	5	18
Halls West Country	7	2	5	18
Visco Monroe	7	2	5	18
Ancro Village	7	0	7	0

Meddings clinched the match by beating Darren Mabbs, but fourth string, 9-4, 9-2, 9-3, with as clinical a display of shot power as any he has ever produced. It was Gregory, though, who produced the performance of the match to fight his way to success at second string, 9-4, 2-9, 1-9, 9-4, 9-5, against Ceryn Jones, the Welsh captain, who earned the vital point that kept his team ahead of the field.

Both are only 18 years old. Last season Gregory was an occasional fifth string and Meddings considered himself lucky to get the odd game. When the heavyweights fill the top positions, the new star regularly as a devastating double sting in the Dunnington Mill tail.

Del Harris, the British under-19 champion, beat the European champion of champions Adrian Davies, after being demoted to second string for the Essex team Ardleigh Hall against Manchester City. Harris, the English junior captain, Robert Graham, playing at fifth string for InterCity-Cannons, unaccountably lost his confidence despite losing four match balls when Richard Ingham, Andrew Dunnington and eventually lost 9-5, 9-4, 8-10, 2-9, 0-9.

RESULTS: Poundstretcher Dunnington Mill 4, Halls West Country 1; Nottingham 3, Chapel Allerton 2; Alford Hill 2, Manchester Northam 3; Visco Monroe 1, Skol Leicester 4.

Kenyon in semi-final

Muscat (Brunei) — Phil Kenyon, of Brunei, sprang a surprise victory over Ross Farnes, the world No. 4, of Australia, 9-6, 10-9, 9-7, but his compatriot, Gawan Briers, crashed 9-0, 9-6, 9-1, to Jahangir Khan, the world No. 1, of Pakistan, in the quarter-finals here at Grand Prix.

Stuart Davenport, the world No. 3, of New Zealand, was another casualty, knocked out by Qamar Zaman, the Pakistani veteran. Davenport made a fight back against Zaman but he missed his chance in the third under pressure to lose 9-5, 4-9, 10-9, 9-2.

Ross Norman, the New Zealander who deposed Jahangir as world champion, beat Chris Rensson, of Australia, 9-7, 9-0, 9-9.

QUARTER-FINALS: Jahangir Khan (Pak) 9-6, 10-9, 9-7, 9-1; Ross Norman (NZ) 9-0, 9-6, 9-1; Gawan Briers (Eng) 9-0, 9-6, 9-1; Phil Kenyon (Brn) 9-6, 10-9, 9-7.

BOBSLEIGHING

British hopes dashed as sledges go missing

From Chris Moore, Winterberg, West Germany

Britain's team suffered a severe setback after arriving here for the opening round of the World Cup series without any sledges. Despite day-long inquiries the whereabouts of their three two-man bobs were still unclear last night.

They were originally due to have been flown from Calgary last week by the Royal Air Force. When that arrangement fell through due to a priority loading, the sledges were re-routed to Toronto and Air Canada. They should have arrived in Dusseldorf yesterday but were not on board. With no replacements available, the British team have no option but to sit out yesterday's first two practice runs. They will also miss this morning's two runs and unless the sleds arrive today, face the prospect of missing all six training days.

The team manager Mo Hammond, a flight lieutenant in the RAF, said the sleds were not on board because of a technical problem with the aircraft. He said the sleds were not on board because of a technical problem with the aircraft. He said the sleds were not on board because of a technical problem with the aircraft.

FISHING

Britain and Ireland lag in salmon conservation

By Conrad Voss Bark

Britain and Ireland were strongly criticized by an American delegate at a recent scientific conference in France attended by all the major countries interested in salmon conservation. Richard A. Buck, said Britain and Ireland had not progressed in conservation and the Salmon Bill in the UK Parliament (now an Act) provided no important reductions in catch levels, either commercial or angling.

What was needed, he said, was a long-term plan of stock enhancement instead of the timid proposals put forward in Parliament. Other nations had done far better. In the United States regulations permitted Atlantic salmon to be taken only by rod and line. In Canada in-river angling catch limits have been drastically reduced, drift netting banned, inshore netting banned entirely and seasons cut back in others. For Newfoundland, Canada, under a North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization agreement, the autumn commercial fishing has ended to reduce interception of US stocks. Since the NASCO treaty became operational three years ago there have been two cuts in the Greenland quota.

Costly programme

A programme of a game between Tottenham Hotspur and Everton played in Buenos Aires in 1909 has been sold for more than £300. It comes from one of the earliest foreign tours

SKIING

Depth and age range make Swiss side the favourites

By Ian McMillan

The stop-go World Cup downhill season resumes again on Saturday at Val d'Isere in France with a long list of 19 racers already into the points. Hopes of a regular southern hemisphere autumn leg were finally blown away by an Argentine gale as organizers struggled to complete two downhill planned for the high-altitude Andean resort of Las Lenas last August.

The two-year experiment was not a total flop but it seemed impossible to get all the right ingredients together to win unanimous support. The Swiss dominated the races and greatly influenced the decision to compete there in the first place. They were always strongly in favour because they have done their summer training in Las Lenas for the past seven years.

So, having become acquainted with the mountains and the freak weather conditions, it is hardly surprising that in this, their second summer home, Swiss competitors won both races this year and last. Three men, Karl Alpiger, Peter Mueller and Firmin Zurbriggen, won those races and must start favourites. Alpiger won both races last August and his fellow countrymen one apiece this year. Mueller heads the downhill points tally on 40, having scored a third place as opposed to Zurbriggen's six. At only five points behind, Zurbriggen, aged 23, and the first man to have won on the greatest Hahnenkamm course at Kitzbuhel on two consecutive days, has the youth and talent to overtake Mueller at any time.

Mueller, aged 30, is part of an old master group of downhillers who are showing experience can triumph over youth. Leonard Stock, the Austrian who won the gold medal in the 1980 Lake Placid Winter Olympics, never lived up to that achievement and was even dropped from the Austrian team two years ago. Last season, however, he scored consistently to the top five and ended up sixth in the final

out of the hat. Steiner has always been knocking on the door but surprisingly unlocked it with a win in Morzine last February. Zurbriggen has the additional spur of having earned even more points from giant slalom success at Sestriere in Italy last Sunday. He now leads the overall championship with 50 points and, with such success in these other disciplines, this season will see an addition to his confidence, especially when it



Bell: everything he needs to seize the chance of a lifetime

RUGBY LEAGUE

Sheridan turns jokes to Doncaster's advantage

Keith Macklin's Diary

The comedians, both professional and amateur, who have fed off Doncaster for years must ooze look for another easy target after Sunday's shock humbling of Hull Kingston Rovers by John Player Trophy first round. Here are a few examples of the barbs and goads that the Dons suffered in the long years when they were the Rugby League's equivalent of homeless Dickensian urchins in the workhouse.

"Doncaster's new coach has taken his first training session. He told them to take up their usual positions, and they all ran behind the posts..." "Doncaster have ordered a new grandstand. The settee arrives on Monday..." "Shergar has been found at last. He was discovered grazing on Doncaster's opponents' try line last Sunday..."

All this, and much more, as Doncaster, who entered the league in 1951, achieved inclusion in the Guinness Book of World Records by losing 40 consecutive games, featured in a recently mickey-taking television documentary, Another Bloody Sunday, and turned up week by week to be ritually slaughtered by every other side in the league before attendances of a few hundred.

John Sheridan, the former Castleford forward and Leeds reserve coach, took on the least desirable job in Rugby League in 1984 and is now in his third season as Doncaster's coach. When he arrived at the then aptly named Tattersfield, a former player, he found only five registered players, and had to fill the team with amateurs and hastily loaned signings. Since then, rallying to Sheridan's hard work and enthusiasm, changing boards of directors have dipped deep into their pockets to buy shrewdly, pick up bargain free transfers, and sign outstanding young players from successful local amateur clubs.

From Castleford have come

experienced players to Ian Birky, Andrew Timson and Kevin Jones; Kevin Parkhouse is a local lad who has made tremendous strides in the pack, and Neil Turner, a winger who scored a club record 20 tries last season is from a local rugby union club.

Slowly and patiently Sheridan has put the Doncaster act together. At first there were plenty of defeats, but a glimmer of light with an occasional win. Then the victories began to be strung together, and last season the Dons had a tremendous spell when they shot up the second division table, beat Salford in a cup tie at home, and gave tough games to Leeds and St Helens in other cup matches. This season the momentum has continued. Doncaster, after a slow start, archrivaling for promotion. Then last Sunday came the 18-14 victory over Hull KR, after which Sheridan said: "This is the greatest day in my rugby career."

Doncaster were bitterly disappointed to be drawn away to Leigh, of the first division in the Rugby League's second round. Crowd enthusiasm is growing by leaps and bounds at Tattersfield, but they now have no home fixture until early January. That is, unless they draw or win at Leigh, and there is no doubt that after Sunday's amazing win confidence is high. Says Sheridan: "Obviously we would rather be at home, but if we put our game together and tackle as we did against Rovers we can win." The Dons will not lack support, with ten coachloads of fans making the trip.

Carlisle have switched to Penrith's ground, 18 miles away, tomorrow — their third attempt to settle the first round John Player Trophy tie with Keighley. Carlisle's pitch was unfit on Sunday and Keighley requested Tuesday's tie postponed because their players were unable to miss work.

BADMINTON

Scots planning revenge

By Richard Eaton

England must beware of an extremely spirited and steadily improving Scotland side that will be determined to avenge themselves for past humiliations tonight at Hereford. What should make the Scots particularly dangerous is that two years ago the English, after winning all 55 contests between the two countries, decided to downgrade the fixture and describe the team as an "England select".

Since then both matches have ended with a 4-3 scoreline — the Scots being within a single point of victory two years ago at Hincley — and it is certainly possible that English hearts will be in their mouths again this time.

Scottish ire may not be quite so outspoken as it was, but it is still quite detectable. "We feel sorry for the English players who don't get full caps when they play against us," the coach, Allan Campbell, said. "We are the fourth best side in Europe and we think the gap between us and England has closed. Our whole attitude has changed because we go out there now genuinely believing we can win."

The Scots have a world-class doubles pair in Billy Gilliland and Dan Travers, who are the Commonwealth champions, a good singles player in Alex White, and another good doubles pair in White and Iain Pringle. Unfortunately, Pringle yesterday contracted influenza and had to be replaced by the inexperienced Ross Gladwin, a serious blow for the Scots. Their best hopes of causing an upset probably rest with White avenging himself on Anders Nielsen, the most promising young player in England, for a recent defeat in the Scottish international championships, and to win two men's doubles and the mixed, in which Gilliland, the former All-England mixed doubles champion, has a new partner in Jennifer Allan.

ATHLETICS

Slaney to miss out

Eugene, Oregon (AP) — Mary Slaney, the world champion at 1,500 and 3,000 metres, is likely to miss the 1987 indoor season because of surgery on her right Achilles tendon. Mrs Slaney, who is also the world record holder for the mile, underwent arthroscopic surgery here a week ago Tuesday to repair damage done to the tendon over the last three years.

She said her choices were to have the operation this autumn and miss at least most of the indoor season or run indoors and sit out the first part of the 1987 outdoor campaign. Mrs Slaney decided to have the surgery now because of the World Championships in Rome next year. Mrs Slaney, aged 28, had scheduled three meetings this winter, the Pacific Northwest indoor in Portland on January 24, the Sunbelt invitation in Los Angeles on January 16 and the Milrose Games. "The January meets are out, but if the leg progresses fairly rapidly, I might be able to run in some meets at the end of February," she said.

HOCKEY Colclough makes his bench mark

By Sydney Friskin

Colclough made his mark on the international hockey scene...

Colclough's performance was a real surprise...

Colclough's role on the team is becoming clearer...

Colclough's presence on the bench is a positive sign...

Colclough's future with the team remains uncertain...

Colclough's return to the team is a relief...

Colclough's performance in the final match was excellent...

Colclough's career highlights include several international appearances...

Crack of boom leaves White Crusader with stigma of jinxed crew

From Keith Wheatley, Fremantle

Misfortune continues to stalk White Crusader...

The broken boom, wrecked by a gust of wind...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

At the time, White Crusader was trying to cross ahead...

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Chris Dickson adopted the same tactic...

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Up and away: Stars and Stripes shakes off America II at the start of their challenger series race for a convincing victory

RUGBY UNION: SPONSORS AT THE READY AS A NEW ERA APPROACHES

Selectors look for reliability

By George Ace

One could be forgiven for thinking that the Irish selectors...

The surprise of the day in the defender series was the...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

Revised club championship structure is taking shape

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

By the end of this month both the structure of next year's...

The major clubs, who worked out their own deal with...

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CRICKET

W Indies kings of one-day match

Sharjah (Reuters) - The West Indies thrashed Sri Lanka...

The West Indies were quite devastating yesterday. Sent in to bat after the Sri Lankan captain...

The West Indies' awesome pace battery then went to work...

The last eight wickets crashed for only 10 runs and Sri Lanka's total of 55 was their lowest in one-day internationals.

The West Indies captain, Viv Richards, snatched the glory from Richardson, who hit 109...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

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White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

Davis Cup hitch to league

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

The new Mortgage Corporation national league, a men's indoor team competition...

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TENNIS

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

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White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

All hands on deck

By David Hands

Neither London nor the North anticipate problems in fielding their selected teams...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

Teenagers' aim

Matthew Syed, of Reading, and a number of other youngsters...

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White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

Forrest swaps club for tournaments

The appointment of Michelle Walker as full professional at the Warren Golf Club...

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White Crusader was surfing down the face of a wave...

PBA CERTIFIED DIVIDENDS. LITTLEWOODS POOLS LIVERPOOL. THIS WEEK ANOTHER FANTASTIC PAYOUT! £2.4 MILLION. TREBLE CHANCE PAYING 6 DIVIDENDS. 24 PTS £959.00. 23 PTS £46.70. 22 PTS £5.55. 21 PTS £2.85. 20 PTS £2.55. 19 PTS £0.60.

VERNONS POOLS LIVERPOOL. THIS WEEK'S SUPER PAYOUT OF £730,933. TREBLE CHANCE 5 DIVIDENDS. 24 PTS £248.90. 23 PTS £10.50. 22 PTS £1.75. 21 PTS £0.80. 20 PTS £0.55. 19 PTS £0.20.

ZETTERS LONDON EC1. THOUSANDS OF 10-a-1p CLIENTS WIN 50% MORE WEEK! TREBLE CHANCE POOL 4 DRAWS £5.00. 24 PTS £74.30 FOR ONLY £13.00. 23 PTS £2.60. 22 PTS £0.40. 21 PTS £0.20.



Jane Forrest: ace of clubs (Photograph: Tony Spencer)

FOOTBALL

Martin's swift return is precisely what the doctor ordered

By Clive White

After last Sunday's televised set-back to their championship...

John Lyall, the manager, scoffed yesterday at a suggestion...

The four-goal hammering West Ham received from Newcastle United...

"It's just been a question of games and he's not far off it now...

Martin last played 13 games ago at Sheffield Wednesday...

intended their League challenge, recently going six hours without conceding a goal...

With Martin restored to full health, Bobby Robson, the England manager...

Mullery should know later this week whether the captain, Danny Wilson...

The defenders, Russell Osman and Paul Ramsey...

team last night. Ramsey, the Irish international, had not played since September...

Ipswich Town's England under-21 international defender, Ian Cranston...

Rotherham United, struggling in the third division...

Oxford United are using a friendly against Oxford University as a fitness test...



The toast is Jennings: Kevin Keegan drinks to the health of Northern Ireland's goalkeeper...

A goalkeeper who finds joy in coming miles off his line

By Paul Newman

Every footballer playing professionally or at the higher levels of the part-time game...

Not only does the Telford United goalkeeper have to combine his football commitments...

Charlton, who hopes to help Telford beat Altrincham in the second round of the FA Cup...

When I arrive home after a midweek match at somewhere like Weymouth...

Charlton, who has pursued his career despite the problems of being a diabetic...

Stan Storton, the Telford manager, said: "He's a big occasion player. He sometimes loses concentration in the mill-league games...

Charlton: travelling man

FA CUP

When we win at Stockport in the FA Cup last year...

Despite having helped Hereford win the third division championship...

Charlton, an effervescent personality with a reputation as a dressing-room character...

Charlton ends Telford's sequence of 14 successive FA Cup ties against League opposition...

Charlton, however, believes that Altrincham, one of Telford's main challengers...

Charlton, who has pursued his career despite the problems of being a diabetic...

Stan Storton, the Telford manager, said: "He's a big occasion player. He sometimes loses concentration in the mill-league games...

Charlton: travelling man

Wood taking aim at the big time

By Steve Bates

Alex Ferguson, alarmed at Manchester United's goal drought, is ready to promote a reserve forward...

The new Old Trafford manager, whose side have scored four goals in their last seven League games...

Ferguson indicated he may change the assault force of Frank Stapleton and Peter Davenport...

Ferguson said: "Nicky has got a lot of talent and he has the ability to get into the first team...

Spain topple Albania to lead group

Vienna (Reuters) - A goal in the 53rd minute from Joaquin Alonso...

Spain, who have made two substitute appearances for United, is their top Central European scorer...

Spain, who have made two substitute appearances for United, is their top Central European scorer...

The Spaniards, runners-up in the 1984 championship, had trailed for much of the encounter...

In Nicosia, Greece, trailing 2-1 at halftime, hit back with two late goals...

CRICKET

Century for Wessels on SA debut

East London (Reuters) - Kest Wessels, the Australian Test player...

Wessels was given permission to play for the Australians last month after returning to South Africa...

Yesterday Wessels responded to his inclusion by steering them out of an awkward position...

Earlier Brad Osborne scored his maiden first class century with 127 as Border scored 358...

SCHOOLS FOOTBALL

Repton finish in style

Repton finished their season on a happy note, beating both Charterhouse and Malvern 2-0...

Against Malvern C Adams headed in a corner after 20 minutes...

Repton's second at another corner, shooting through a crowd of players...

Samart Payakarun and fly-weight Sor Chaitada, will defend their titles here next Wednesday...

Pical retains title

Jakarta (Reuters) - Elyas Pical, of Indonesia, knocked out Lee Dong Choon...

RUGBY UNION

Slick Sultan on crest of the wave

HMS Cochrane 16 HMS Sultan 25

HMS Sultan, the marine engineering training establishment from Gosport...

A strong wind at Cochrane's back helped them to a useful lead of 12-6 at the halfway stage...

At the end of a splendid second half display in which 19 points took their aggregate in five matches to 175-31...

FOR THE RECORD

Football: Southampton 2, Ipswich 1; Ipswich 2, Exeter 1; Exeter 2, Plymouth 1...

Cricket: Wessels 100; Brad Osborne 127; Ian Botham 100...

Boxing: Pical 15-round bout; Pical 15-round bout...

Other sports: Soccer, tennis, and other minor sports results.

GOLF

Hobday making giant strides towards the top

From John Hennessy, La Manga, Spain

A new yet familiar name surged forward yesterday on the fourth day of the PGA European tour...

Justin, born in London in 1963, will be remembered at home for having played in two British amateur championships...

After yesterday's splendid 65, six under par, over La Manga's north course, Hobday is almost certain to qualify for his Euro tour...

Hobday's 10-under-par 276 is a laudable enough achievement, though it still leaves him, together with Wayne Smith...

They are followed by two Britons on 279. David Gilford

(Trentham Park) and Lee Fickling (Frocey Driving Range)...

The survivor of the day was John Vingoe, a young assistant from Mullion...

Almost six months in advance, the Walker Cup selectors will announce today the Great Britain and Ireland side...

That leaves Colin Montgomerie, George Macgregor, Garth McGimpsey, Peter McEvoy, Cecil Blouie and Paul Mayo...

There are not, however, too many other outstanding candidates with so many players...

List of team could be premature

performance at Pine Valley in 1985, losing by a narrow 13-11 margin...

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AUSTRALIAN CRICKET TOUR AVERAGES

Table with columns for Batting and fielding, Bowling, and Averages for England and Australia.

ATHLETICS

Table with columns for Name, Club, and Results for various athletes.

BASKETBALL

Table with columns for Team, Score, and Location for basketball games.

BOWLS

Table with columns for Club, Score, and Location for bowling matches.

SQUASH RACKETS

Table with columns for Player, Opponent, and Score for squash and rackets matches.

Langer is back to fill vacuum

Johannesburg (AFP) - Bernhard Langer, the defending champion, is seen as both the favourite and saviour of the Sun City tournament...

The West German has proved immune to anti-apartheid pressure which has blanketed the tournament...

Lee Trevino, Andy Bean, and Severiano Ballesteros, ostensibly through injury...

Four local players had originally been drafted in to complete the 10-man field...

Clark said: "I received an invitation two weeks ago while I was in Japan and had no hesitation in accepting...

Wadkins, the US Open runner-up, hopes to improve on his second place here last year after a lean season on the US tour...

Graham finished third in the Japanese Masters two weeks ago after promising performances in the Nissan Cup and South Australia Open...

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SPORT

Australia slip out of the clutches of Gattling's men

From John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent Perth

Australia saved the second Test match here yesterday after being under pressure pretty well throughout it. In the end they had six wickets in hand, which was more than had seemed likely when Botham caught Boon off the first ball of the day. There was never any question of Australia attempting to make the 391 they needed for victory.

When Border was fourth out, immediately after tea, Australia were still out of the wood. But Ritchie and Greg Matthews then kept their nerve and their wickets, England eventually calling it a day with a possible 10 overs left.

Considering that a year ago Hadlee, after taking 11 wickets for New Zealand, described the pitch as the worst on which he had played Test cricket, the way it lasted this time was remarkable. The cracks in it, though you could have lodged a ball in some of them, played less of a part than expected, but the same could be said for the bowlers' footmarks, and what turn there was slow.

England were also without Botham from the 39th over onwards. While bowling it he strained a muscle in his side, one that will need all the rest it can get between ood and the next Test, starting in Adelaide a week tomorrow.

Of eight confident appeals for leg-before, only one was upheld. Several others looked most horribly close. But it was ever thus, and to be fair to Australia they escaped on merit. The draw will have given them a breathing space and greater belief in themselves. For England, it was disappointing not to be able to press home the advantage which their huge first innings gave them.

Botham's catch at second slip which got the day away to

such a dramatic start was his 100th in Test matches. It was a good piece of bowling by Dilley, the ball bringing Boon forward and obliging him to play a stroke. Of the seven nethers to have taken 100 Test catches, three were at the ground - Greg Chappell (122 in 87 Tests) as an Australian selector, his brother Ian (105 in 75) as a television commentator and Bobby Simpson (110 in 62) as manager of the Australian side.

Colin Cowdrey (120 in 114), Gary Sobers (109 in 93), Walter Hammond (110 in 85) to Botham at second slip, again off Dilley, it was difficult but Botham has caught harder.

Soon, too, there were some close calls for leg-before by the faster bowlers, two against Jones and one against Marsh. But nothing came of them. Dilley's was a good opening spell and Botham concerned himself with pitching the ball up. Gattling switched his bowlers around, probing for the end by which they were best suited. I thought, however, that he might have brought himself on sooner than he did.

He had as good a chance as anyone of hitting one of the cracks, and not being as tall as the rest he might have got the ball to skid. When he did bowl, just after Botham had gone off, he at once beat the bat and was then within a whisker of bowling Border before he had scored, the ball going over the top of the middle and off stumps.

Australia's second wicket fell, in fact, to a run-out. Jones was playing quite adventurously by now, occasionally going down the pitch to the spinners and always eager for the scampered single. It was in backing himself to make one of these that he fell. Hitting DeFreitas quite firmly to Broad at mid-off, he needed to go with the stroke for the run to have been a safe one. Instead, there was a fractional hesitation and he was beaten by the narrowest of margins by Broad's direct hit at the bowler's end.

Next to go, nine overs later, was Marsh, leg-before playing no stroke to a turning off-break from Embury. At tea Australia were 152 for three. In the first over afterwards Border pushed forward to Embury, as he has done countless times before, and gave Lamb, standing close at silly point, a catch.

With Border's departure, England scooted victory again and Australia defeat. Greg Matthews found enough ways of wasting time to stamp him as hardly a suitable future Australian captain, a job for which he is being canvassed. But for all his maddening little ways he knew what he was about, and Ritchie was defending soundly, which he did for two and a quarter hours, and to their understanding satisfaction they held off a new ball and were still together when Gattling accepted the draw.

A cricket match can never have been played in lovelier weather. Every day the sky was a dome of blue. The total attendance of 51,862 raises the field among the six Anglo-Australian Tests played here, the highest of which was for the third Test match which was a major blow for England. While the tourists might get by without his seam bowling,

on an Adelaide pitch expected to favour spin, Botham's batting would be badly missed.

Although twice failing in Perth, he set up England's first Test victory in Brisbane with a magnificent century and is the most Australia fear most. Mike Gatting, the England captain, said: "Perhaps we might not need a third seamer in Adelaide, but hopefully Ian will be fit because he's a very useful batsman coming in at number six."

Gatting was disappointed not to have won the match, but he was far from dispirited. The WACA pitch failed to give his bowlers the help he had hoped for on the final day. "I don't think anyone got that much out of the wicket all match," he said. "It played quite well throughout and when the ball did hit a crack today it did far too much."

Gatting said he had hoped to declare about 20 minutes before stumps on the previous day but explained: "Unfortunately we kept losing wickets at the wrong time. Anyway, if we had declared last night I think Australia would have been able to bat for an extra 20

minutes or half an hour today. "I don't think we've let Australia off the hook in any way. We are still one up in the series and they had to battle to survive today."

The Australian captain, Alan Border, had "a great feeling of relief" after the match. "I'm happy to have got out of it with a draw," he said. Border added: "We are still not playing well. We are struggling with our bowling. You can't win a Test match if you let the opposition get 500."

Cape Town (AFP) - Protesters yesterday stoned the home of a businessman connected with the sponsorship of an Australian cricket tour of South Africa in defiance of an international sports boycott of South Africa. The attack is the latest of several on the property of people connected with the current rebel tour. Mr. Lodwick said his house was stoned soon after midnight, and several windows were smashed.

Tour match report, page 40

Remaining Test dates and venues

Third Test match: December 12-16 (in Adelaide).

Fourth Test match: December 26-30 (in Melbourne).

Fifth Test match: January 10-15 (in Sydney).

FIRST TEST RESULT: England won by seven wickets.

● Averages, Page 40.

and Sunil Gavaskar (103 in 118) make up the oomph. Simpson's average of 1.7 catches a match puts him out on his own; but Botham, do not forget, has also bowled more than 3,000 overs when he might otherwise have been standing at ship.

With scores of 10, 14, 2 and 0, Boon is struggling for his Test place; but by adding 128 for the second wicket Marsh and Jones took Australia well on the way to a draw. Marsh established himself as a sticer earlier in the tour and Jones is beginning to play with much more assurance.

They needed some luck and had it. When Marsh was only one he survived a low chance

Complete Test scoreboard

Table with columns for ENGLAND: First innings, AUSTRALIA: First innings, ENGLAND: Second innings, AUSTRALIA: Second innings. Includes player names, runs, and wickets.



Botham, having reached a century of Test catches in taking Boon, lets Marsh escape. (Photo: Graham Morris)

Injured Botham faces a race against time for Adelaide

Ian Botham faces a race against time to be fit for the third Test match in Adelaide, which starts tomorrow week, after pulling a muscle in his side while bowling yesterday.

Laure Brown, the England physiotherapist, confirmed later that the world's leading Test wicket-taker had strained an intercostal muscle. "It is quite a common injury among bowlers and I'm afraid it sometimes takes quite a while to clear up," Brown said. "I'm hoping he'll be fit for the third Test, but we'll just have to wait and see how it goes."

Botham had an ice pack on the injury within minutes of leaving the field and Brown has already started ultra-sound treatment. "He's going to be stiff and sore for a day or two but we will try some gentle stretching exercises as soon as we can. Fortunately, he left the pitch rather than trying to carry on, and that may have saved him from worse damage."

Botham's absence from the third Test match would be a major blow for England. While the tourists might get by without his seam bowling,

Becker one game away from No. 1

At the age of 19 years and two weeks, Boris Becker, is just one match away from laying legitimate claim to the position of the world's No. 1 player.

Should he beat Ivan Lendl in the final of the Nabisco Masters here at Madison Square Garden next Monday, it will be very difficult for the ITF panel of past champions to ignore the claims of the Wimbledon champion.

Statistically, Lendl is assured of finishing 1986 as number one, both on the ATP computer ranking and the Nabisco leader board which is restricted to points earned on the Grand Prix tour.

However, the ITF panel take other factors into consideration and should Becker beat Lendl here, one of them will become indisputable. Already the West German has a 3-1 winning lead over Lendl this year, having beaten him on grass, cement and indoors at Wimbledon, Chicago and Sydney and should he add the Masters title to his Wimbledon crown, the Czech's French and US Open titles would hardly be sufficient.

However, there is much tennis to be played in the round-robin format before a head-to-head clash between the game's two top players can come about.

Lendl, who opens against the only one-European in the eight-man field - Andres Gomez, of Ecuador - tonight is in a group with one of three Swedes, Stefan Edberg, and Yannick Noah, the Wembley hero who has a record of beating Lendl in important matches.

Becker heads the other round-robin group which includes another Frenchman Henri Leconte, Mats Wilander, and Becker's first opponent, Joakim Nystrom, who is fit again after injury.

The big question mark hovers around Lendl's match fitness. He has been working with typical zeal and thoroughness to overcome tendinitis in his left hip but looked below his best while losing to John McEnroe in Atlanta last week.

Becker and Leconte, both power hitters, should emerge from the other group for the knock-out semi-finals on Sunday. Power, indeed, will be the essence of this Masters.

It is a different game these days, different even from a decade ago when John McEnroe first appeared on the scene and certainly light years away from the days when Ken Rosewall's delicate precision could cut down players with twice his fire power. The little Australian, aged 52 but still active on the Grand Masters tour, was in town this week to receive an accolade from the Association of Tennis Professionals at their JAKS awards dinner as a "great player of the past". In 1974 Rosewall was blasted in defeat to the Wimbledon and Forest Hills finals by Jimmy Connors and his modern power game.

Under attack

Cape Town (AFP) - Protesters yesterday stoned the home of a businessman connected with the sponsorship of an Australian cricket tour of South Africa in defiance of an international sports boycott of South Africa.

The attack is the latest of several on the property of people connected with the current rebel tour. Mr. Lodwick said his house was stoned soon after midnight, and several windows were smashed.

Tour match report, page 40

Tennis

Beating a retreat in the face of a mounting rumpus and threats of demonstrations and disruptions, the Hedgehogs team from South Africa yesterday called off their tour of southern England. "We've had enough of this," the team captain, wishing to remain anonymous, said. "We'll make the rest of the trip a holiday."

Both Richmond, who were considering their match on Saturday, and Southend, who were determined to go ahead with theirs on Sunday, expressed sadness that outside pressures had forced the cancellation.

The tour organizer, David Barclay, whose club, Rosslyn Park, cancelled their match planned for yesterday, remarked: "I am disgusted that the tour is off. It is a victory for the radicals. Who will we stop surrendering to them?" It had set back his plans to bring over a multi-racial team next year, he added.

Richmond and Southend had security worries. Mike Humphreys, the Richmond chairman, had yesterday consulted the police on how their ground could be protected from disruptive demonstrators. They had four years previously, he said, called off a match against a South African team. Collegians of Durban, "because of police advice that it would be difficult and very expensive" to provide full security against pitch invasions, costing the club around £10,000.

Southend expressed "repugnance" at possible damage being caused to their pitch by what one official there described as "a lunatic fringe who we understand were planning to join anti-apartheid demonstrators"; the club also worried about embarrassing the club's sponsors, Access.

Richmond's senior coach, Derek Wyatt, has withdrawn his resignation, tendered in protest at the club's future. But Humphreys said Richmond would "continue our policy of playing against South Africans and touring there once the Rugby Football Union's restrictions are lifted".

Methodical play slows progress

Progress at the £200,000 Hoffmeister world doubles championship in Northampton yesterday maintained its predictably slow pattern when Dennis Taylor and Terry Griffiths took two hours to open up a 3-1 lead over their unseeded and onfeared opponents, Mike Darrington and Bill Oliver.

They began promisingly enough. Taylor pocketed a break of 53 to win the opening frame and a 42 that won the second but it took 44 minutes before they stretched their lead with a 75-44 success in the third frame.

As from January 1, they will cease to control tournament dates, leaving rival promoters to stage contests, together with television coverage, on the same night. John Morris, the secretary of the board, said yesterday: "If anybody wants to run on the same night and in the same street they can, although obviously that would not be wise from a financial viewpoint."

Eric Bristow is to defend his Butlin's grand master darts title at the Austin Sports and Social Club in Longbridge, Birmingham on December 9 and 10. His main rival will be John Lowe, the second seed, with Mike Gregory seeded three and Bob Anderson four.

Ring in the change

The British Boxing Board of Control have realized they are fighting a losing battle in trying to stop the top promoters running shows in close proximity.

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Hateley's hope

Mark Hateley, the 25-year-old England forward, said yesterday that he hopes to keep playing in Italy next year, despite bids by some British clubs to bring him home.

Hateley, whose contract with AC Milan expires next June, has attracted the attention of Liverpool, Arsenal and Portsmouth. But in an Italian sports newspaper, Hateley was quoted as saying: "I hope to have my contract renewed or to join another Italian major league team next year. Thanks England, but I will stay here."

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SA row takes a new twist

By John Goodbody

A team from a leading South African public school has arrived in England for a series of rugby matches despite the British Government's support of the Gleneagles Agreement, which seeks to sever sporting links with the Republic.

Just as the Hedgehogs, a team from the University of Cape Town, were cancelling the rest of their five-match tour of southern England after a public outcry, a schoolhouse, from Natal, were preparing to play Sherborne, the public school in Dorset, this afternoon.

The general committee of the Welsh Rugby Union will also decide today whether to sanction several fixtures provisionally arranged by Michaelhouse against Welsh opposition.

Mr Robin Macnaughton, the headmaster of Sherborne, said he thought the Gleneagles Agreement applied only to sport at adult and professional levels and not to schools. "But I do not think it would have made any difference to our attitude. There is no question of the game not taking place. We have made some sort of arrangement and we will honour it," he said.

Mr Rob Tennick, of the Rugby Union, said yesterday: "There was an eleventh hour request from David Scott, the master in charge of rugby at Sherborne, for permission for the game to be played. The team have been touring Wales and apparently had a spare date. Until the phone call from Sherborne we had no knowledge of the visit. We had no objection but asked Mr Scott to fill in the appropriate form immediately."

Mr Tennick said South African schools "have frequently drifted in and out of Britain over the years. If we cannot bring the youngsters to here what chance have they got to change anything?"

The Rugby Union have always believed that the best way of changing the apartheid system in South Africa is by maintaining contacts. But, at the moment, the Rugby Union has barred all trips there by players and clubs because of the visit to South Africa last summer by the unofficial New Zealand Cavaliers.

Mr Roy Williams, the secretary of the Welsh Rugby Union, said yesterday: "The Welsh Schools Rugby Union cannot entertain any visit from a South African school but the Welsh Youth Rugby Union can."

Hedgehogs call off their tour

By Paul Martin

Beating a retreat in the face of a mounting rumpus and threats of demonstrations and disruptions, the Hedgehogs team from South Africa yesterday called off their tour of southern England. "We've had enough of this," the team captain, wishing to remain anonymous, said. "We'll make the rest of the trip a holiday."

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Advertisement for Hill Samuel Investment Services Ltd. with text: "How will your income grow? How will your capital grow?" and contact information for David J. Riley.

YACHTING

Lamazou dispels the fears

By Barry Pickthall

The second stage of the BOC singlehanded round the world race from Cape Town to Sydney is turning into something of a chicken run, with all competitors reporting pea-soup fog and a worrying number of icebergs this week.

Only a few, like Britain's Harry Mitchell have had the prudence to reduce sail, a decision that has cost him dearly, for he now trails almost 2,000 miles behind the leaders who continue to make most of the 50 knot westerly winds, surfing through the Roaring Furies on a wing and a prayer, often reaching speeds of 20 knots or more.

The race organizers had a nerve-racking start to the week too, when the Argos satellite system, tracking these intrepid soloists, showed Titouan Lamazou's leading French boat, Ecuireuil d'Aquitaine, to have stopped dead in the water. Thankfully, he and his boat were all right.

The experience patently failed to break his nerve though, for Lamazou, a marine artist by trade, has continued to keep up his average of 230 miles a day since leaving Cape Town two and a half weeks ago, to maintain a hefty 220-mile lead over his nearest rivals. Two other Frenchmen are fighting it out for second place. Philippe Jeantot, the winner four years ago, finally got ahead of Jean Yves Terlain's UAF for the first time on Tuesday.

LEADING POSITIONS (with mean to Sydney): 1. T. Lamazou, 2,300 miles; 2. P. Jeantot, 2,200 miles; 3. J. Y. Terlain, UAF, 2,100 miles; 4. G. Bernadot, 2,000 miles; 5. I. Kerstan, Spirit of Sydney, 1,900 miles.

SNOOKER

Methodical play slows progress

Progress at the £200,000 Hoffmeister world doubles championship in Northampton yesterday maintained its predictably slow pattern when Dennis Taylor and Terry Griffiths took two hours to open up a 3-1 lead over their unseeded and onfeared opponents, Mike Darrington and Bill Oliver.

They began promisingly enough. Taylor pocketed a break of 53 to win the opening frame and a 42 that won the second but it took 44 minutes before they stretched their lead with a 75-44 success in the third frame.

As from January 1, they will cease to control tournament dates, leaving rival promoters to stage contests, together with television coverage, on the same night. John Morris, the secretary of the board, said yesterday: "If anybody wants to run on the same night and in the same street they can, although obviously that would not be wise from a financial viewpoint."

Eric Bristow is to defend his Butlin's grand master darts title at the Austin Sports and Social Club in Longbridge, Birmingham on December 9 and 10. His main rival will be John Lowe, the second seed, with Mike Gregory seeded three and Bob Anderson four.

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SPORT IN BRIEF

That was enough to win the third.

There were victories for Mike Hallett and Stephen Hendry and the all-Welsh partnership of Doug Mounjoy and Wayne Jones. Hallett and Hendry defeated Bill Werbenicuk and Danny Fowler 5-3 after, at one time, holding a 3-0 lead while the Welshmen were comfortable 5-1 winners over Matt Gibson and Dave Chalmers.

RESULTS: Third round: O Mounjoy and W Jones (Wales) 4-1 M Gibson (Scot) and D Chalmers (Eng) 5-1; M Hallett (Eng) and S Hendry (Wales) 4-1 B Werbenicuk (Wales) and D Fowler (Wales) 5-3; O Mounjoy (Wales) and W Jones (Wales) 4-1 M Gibson (Scot) and D Chalmers (Eng) 5-1.

Mark Hateley, the 25-year-old England forward, said yesterday that he hopes to keep playing in Italy next year, despite bids by some British clubs to bring him home.

Hateley, whose contract with AC Milan expires next June, has attracted the attention of Liverpool, Arsenal and Portsmouth. But in an Italian sports newspaper, Hateley was quoted as saying: "I hope to have my contract renewed or to join another Italian major league team next year. Thanks England, but I will stay here."

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Going places

The British Open squash championships, sponsored by Hi Tech Sports, have a new venue for the qualifying first and second rounds of the competition. These will be held at the London South Bank squash centre from April 4-8, with the third round onwards being staged at Wembley.

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In training

Captain Mark Phillips is to spend two days this winter training top young riders from Scotland and the north of England at Gleneagles Hotel.

The scheme is funded by the Range Rover team, who sponsor Captain Phillips in competition, and the six riders will be selected by the British Horse Society's horse trials group.

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